

# MAXIM

 AUSTRALIA

IN BED WITH...

## LAUREN BRANT

UNCOVERING THE TRUTH  
BEHIND REALITY TV

PAGE 30

### SCENES FROM A SEX PARTY

HOW TO  
SCORE AN  
INVITE

PAGE 96

### MAKE YOUR OWN BOOZE

YOUR GUIDE TO  
WHISKY, WINE  
AND... BEER.

PAGE 48

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A movie poster for the film 'Northmen: A Viking Saga'. The background is a misty, forested landscape. In the center, a woman with long dark hair, Charlie Murphy, looks directly at the camera. To her right, a man with long blonde hair and a beard, Ken Duken, is shown in a dynamic pose, aiming a bow with multiple arrows. The title 'YOUR LIFE' is at the top in red, and 'NORTHMEN' is at the bottom in a large, metallic font. Below the title is the subtitle 'A VIKING SAGA' in red. The names of the lead actors and their characters are listed in the middle.


YOUR LIFE

CHARLIE MURPHY IS  
INGHEAN

KEN DUKEN IS  
THORALD

NORTHMEN  
A VIKING SAGA



A man with a mohawk hairstyle, wearing a black leather jacket and a beaded necklace, is shown in profile looking upwards. In the foreground, a dark gun barrel is visible, from which a vibrant green smoke plume rises and curls into the shape of a dragon. The background is dark and industrial.

# REVENGE OF THE GREEN DRAGONS

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# Contents

MAY  
2015  
#46



12

## RENEE SOMERFIELD

We put *MAXIM* model Renee to the test to see if she's girlfriend material. Yeah, like we really need to, right?



44

## THE JOCKEY

Australia's top rider, Tommy Berry, tells us how to become a successful jockey and make it in the horse racing industry.



46

## FITNESS

Meet Jake Matthews Australia's youngest UFC fighter.

48

## DIY BOOTLEGGER

We show you the art to making whisky, wine, and, yes, a cold beer in your own home.

56

## VANESSA GOLUB

The Russian-Italian beauty is our Woman Of The World this month and she loves an Australian accent.

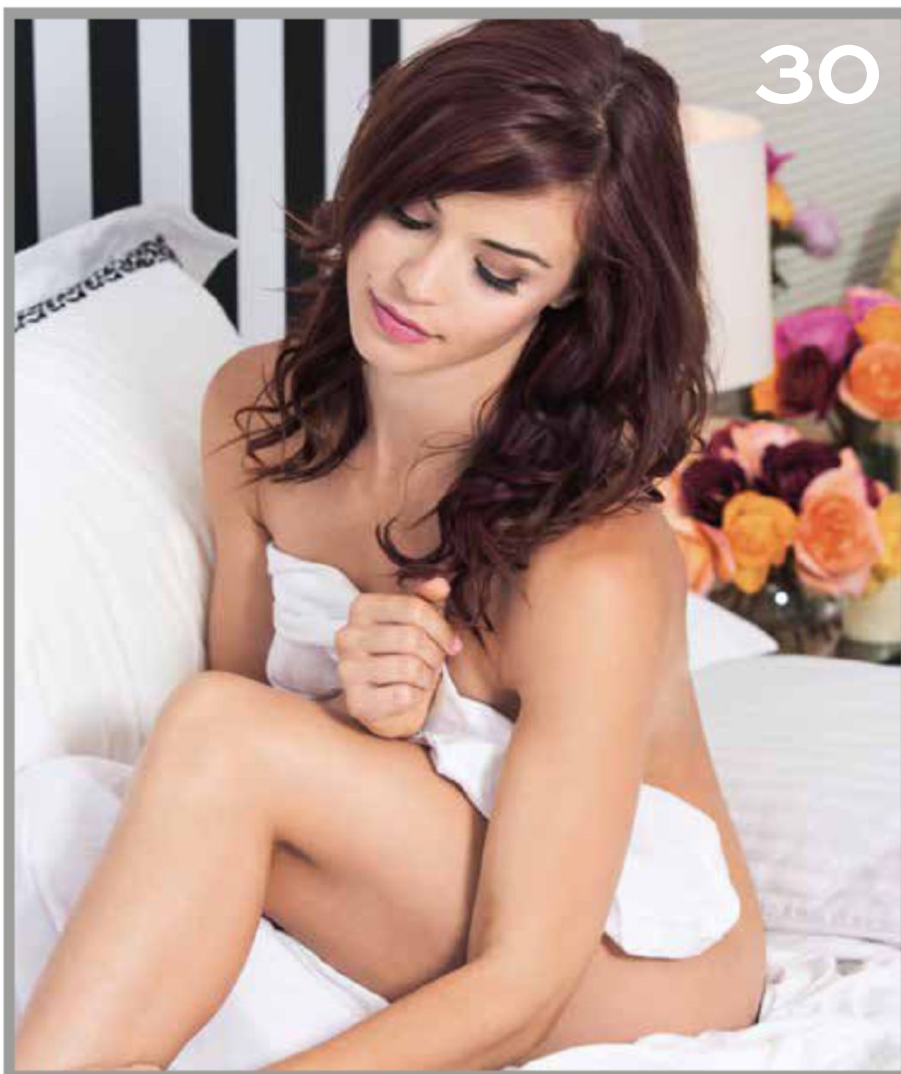


22

## MACHINES

This month's we check out the new V8 Ford Mustang, the Aston Martin Vantage Roadster, and some of the greatest motorcycles from movies and TV.

30



66

## RATED

Charlize Theron has still got it, Millencolin is back, and *The Real Housewives* babe Joanna Krupa lounges around in sexy lingerie.

88

## FASHION

The office dress code has loosened up, but that doesn't mean you should stroll into work with scuffed Chucks on your feet.

94

## TRAVEL

We go on a 24-hour fishing trip on the Gold Coast with a group of lads who call themselves The Mad Heuy's.

96

## SEX

Inside the upscale, invitation-only orgies sweeping America and Europe's top cities. They're way hotter, more exclusive, and less freaky than the old sex clubs.

98

## 24 HOURS TO LIVE

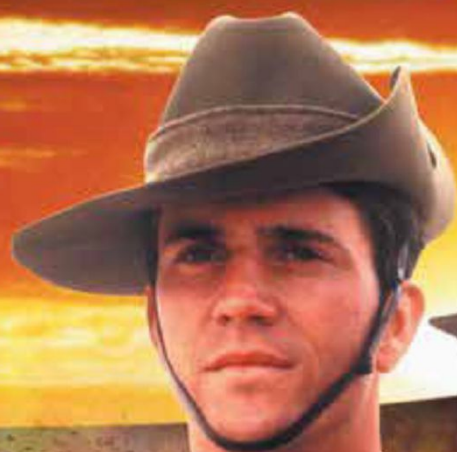
Legendary Aussie actor Ben Mendelsohn takes us through his final day on Earth.





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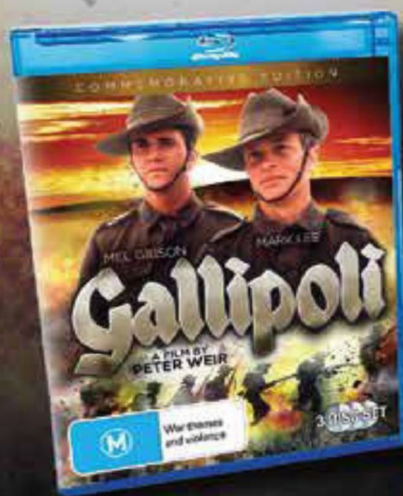
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# MAXIM

COVER PHOTO: DARYL WHEELER

AUSTRALIA

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## STUFF THAT KEPT US SANE THIS MONTH...

Fast cars, top tools, one legendary Aussie actor, and one tough cover girl!



Aussie actor, and star of new Netflix drama *Bloodline*, **Ben Mendelsohn**, tells Editor-in-Chief **Santi** how he'd like to spend his final day on Earth.



MAXIM's Tinder Master and ad guy, **Drew Haywood**, road tests some high quality HITACHI power tools. For more info check out **page 84** now.



This month's MAXIM cover girl, and star of *I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!*, **Lauren Brant** glammed it up at the Sydney premiere of *Furious 7*.

## ASK THE GRILL TEAM

The trio from Triple M's Grill Team in Sydney – Gus Worland, Mark Geyer, and Matty Johns – answer a tough topic each month...

**THIS MONTH: WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO PLAY THE GAME OF LOVE?**

**GUS:** I've been with the same woman for 25 years so when it comes to relationships it's best to do pretty much what you are told. Trying to get away with stuff will only come back and bite you on the arse, so by just doing what you're told makes life a whole lot easier.

**MG:** The best way to play the game of love is with passion, compassion, and honesty. You've got to understand your partner's needs and wants, always show that you love her. I've also learnt that if you try to bullshit them they'll find out one way or another.

**MATTY:** Yeah, MG is right, women have a very good bullshit radar and can spot it a mile away. But I think the game of love should be played with a high degree of subtlety and knowing when to sit down and shut the hell up. Happy wife, happy life!

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# *ultimate crush*

We put **MAXIM** model **Renee Somerfield** to the test to see if she's girlfriend material. As if we really needed to. It's just a good excuse to ask her a bunch of silly and, at the time, personal questions

PHOTOS: WAYNE DANIELS







**Would you rather be twice as smart or twice as happy?**

Twice as smart. Brains = money = freedom = happiness.

**What happened the last time you cried?**

I'm not a big crier. Only when my tax bill comes around.

**What would your mum be surprised to learn about you?**

Nothing shocks her anymore.

**What's your worst habit?**

Driving too fast. Road rage!

**What superpower would you have for one day?**

Invisibility.

**What fictional character do you have the biggest crush on?**

King Triton from *The Little Mermaid*.

**If you could live anywhere in the world where would you live?**

Home! I love Sydney.

**What is your pet peeve?**

People driving slow in the right lane. Moooooove!



**Who knows you the best?**

My best friend of 13 years. We finish each other's sentences.

**What after school activities did you do in high school?**

Oh god. No comment. I was a naughty teenager.

**What "most likely to" superlative would you be most honoured to receive?**

I model over 100 styles a day, so I am the queen of getting changed super quickly in any circumstance.

**If you could go back in time, what is one piece of advice you would give your younger self?**

Who cares. It won't matter in a few years.

**What one thing would you be most disappointed if you never got to experience it?**

A road trip across the USA.

**Unlimited love or money?**

LOVE!

**What's your most listened to song?**

According to iTunes it's "Sunrise" by Childish Gambino.

**What's the first thing you would do if you won the lottery?**

Buy a private island and donate the rest to charity.

**What celebrity would you trade lives with?**

None. I love my life and I've learnt the grass isn't always greener on the other side.

**What story do your friends still give you crap about?**

When I first got my driver's licence. It was less than 12 hours later I backed my brand new car into a pole.

**If Earth could only have one condiment for the rest of time, what would you pick to keep around?**

Tomato sauce. It makes everything taste good.

**What's the weirdest thing you find attractive in a person?**

Politically incorrect humour.





“Would I ever  
date one of my  
social media  
followers?  
Sure, why  
not?”



“The weirdest thing I find attractive in a person is politically incorrect humour.”

**What is the ideal number of people to have over at your place on a Friday night?**

Either four or zero.

**What is something you're superstitious about?**

Aliens. I'm so fascinated.

**What is the scariest experience you have ever had?**

Seeing ghosts. I used to see them all the time as a kid and now only in cameras or mirrors.

**Would you give up one of your fingers if it meant you'd have free WiFi wherever you go, for the rest of your life?**

HELL NO! Free WiFi is always shitty. Always.

**What's the first thing you'd do if you were the opposite sex for one day?**

Play with my... ummm... facial hair.

**What is something you have tried but will never do again?**

Jagermeister shots.

**What's the naughtiest thing you've ever put uploaded to any of your social media accounts?**

Check out Delilah's Instagram account @princess\_delilah. It's the cheekier version of me!

**Would you ever date one of your social media followers?**

Sure, why not?

**Where would you like to be in five years?**

On that private Island I mentioned earlier.



## Favourite Things

**ANIMAL:** Dogs

**FOOD:** Mexican

**DRINK:** Iced coffee

**CAR:** Bentley

Grand convertible

**CELEBRITY:**

Ricky Gervais

**FILM:** Harry Potter

**BOOK:** *#GirlBoss*. Sophia Amoruso is a genius and a babe."

**MODEL:**

Adriana Lima.

**TV SHOW:**

*"Homeland*. I've never met anyone who hasn't watched it and isn't addicted.

It needs to come with a warning label. #Quinning!"





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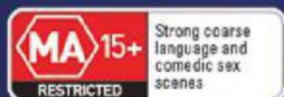
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# MAXIM MOUTH TOM HARDY

We pull up a chair next to the man taking over the role of road warrior Max Rockatansky (made famous by Mel Gibson in the first three *Mad Max* movies) to chat all things *Mad Max: Fury Road*



## Firstly, have you met Mel Gibson?

Oh, yeah, we had a lunch, in LA four or five months before we started filming. It was a hand-the-baton-over moment. Mel's Max, right? When George [Miller, director] asked me to play Max it just seemed right to touch base with Mel. It was an experience. He told my agents that they had probably found someone who's more insane than he was! I take that as a compliment.

## What stood out for you when you first saw *Mad Max*?

Black leather, metal, the shotgun, the dog... the dog is very important to me. I was very young as well because it was 1979 and I was only two years old so I didn't come to it until I was about 10 or 12. I knew about it before I came across it but I was too young to watch it by that time *Mad Max* was already in people's vocabulary. It would be impossible not to know the name anywhere even if you hadn't seen the film.

## Did the original movie have an impact on how you related to the character?

No, I didn't think it did until I was playing Max. At the time it just looked a bit weird with strange men and women and leather. It's a bit weird, a bit advanced, and clever and smart. I mean those original movies are very out of the box, very eccentric and esoteric and dynamic. It's this wild, wacky, crazy, post-apocalyptic, super-stylised, action movie. It's fantastic stuff.

## Did you ever hesitate about taking on such an iconic role?

I didn't hesitate at all. As a young actor, to play Max is a huge opportunity. He is not someone who can just leap across a river. He has not got any superhero abilities but he is as iconic as your Batman or your Superman. Everyone I know was going up for this; lots of Australian actors, who should be playing Max, really. Obviously I am really grateful that it's me but I am very aware of he is an Australian icon. I have to pay respects to that and pay attention to that.

## Is Max actually mad?

There are elements of all kinds of maverick in him, obviously, but I always thought Max is somebody who just wants to go home;

but there is no home. His family is dead. It's really sad. And in a place where there's no humanity, he still yearns for it, despite the elements beating him down.

## A lot of the roles you've played before are very in-your-face. Are you a bit mad?

I suppose that, and being typecast as a lunatic, come hand-in-hand, but trying to understand complex psychology and play that, is a playground for a lot of fun and a lot of characters, and you should not misinterpret that with the actor. It's not something that has come from a crazy place. It is something that I've observed. So I just reflect it and if that gives me gainful employment then I'm certainly not going to knockback a pay check. But I'm not a loony. Well, maybe I am a loony. I'm nuts!

## Was there a cool moment on set for you during filming?

The whole thing was cool. When you are faced with an awful lot of adrenaline, like six months of it, it gets pretty f—king tiring. There was so much of an orchestration of adrenal choreography that it would be impossible not to somehow zone out of it and find a way through it, because on a daily basis the job had to be done. I mean there were three other Maxes – the driving Max, the physical double doing the fighting, and motorcycle Max.

## And they did the hard yards for you?

The other three Maxes are being driven around the desert and thrown around and rolled over and doing stuff which is really dangerous. And this whole movie doesn't stop. It starts on the road and it's one hundred miles an hour plus going in one direction, then it turns around and comes all the way back again. We were just constantly moving. It's an adrenaline rollercoaster. Every time you see a car roll over or a lorry being spun in the air or things flying at you in 3D, they're actually really there.

## Did you have any injuries?

You just grin and bear it. You don't get awards for Best Choreography or Best Fight or Best Car Chase, but you should. You've got people actually technically trying not to kill themselves in the pursuit of somebody's

dream. And they actually make something come to life. We had over 600 stuntmen and women up there in 100+ degrees, every day, for six months, eight or nine months for some people.

## How was it working out in the desert?

We were going to shoot initially in Broken Hill, in NSW, and that's the birthplace of *Mad Max*, but then it had the worst rainfall in years and turned into a meadow. That's not what we had come to do, so there was a logistical switch to Namibia. And to get all the equipment, all of the vehicles you see from Australia to Namibia, was an absolute pleasure!

## Considering he knows the world of *Mad Max* so well, how did [director] George Miller approach it?

This man came with so much material and it's very hard to explain everything. He had to relate an entire library of knowledge in a very short amount of time. He's incredibly smart. We had pictures so I could visually see what he was saying. He storyboarded the entire movie. I read comics and I like books but I'd never seen a comic book like this – 300 pages long, every single frame detailed.

## What was your impression when you saw Charlize Theron?

Oh, striking. Absolutely striking. She looks amazing and so brave as well. There is a woman who is not afraid to just bare everything in her work, and that's fantastic. And she can back it up as well.

## What did this movie cost you physically and emotionally?

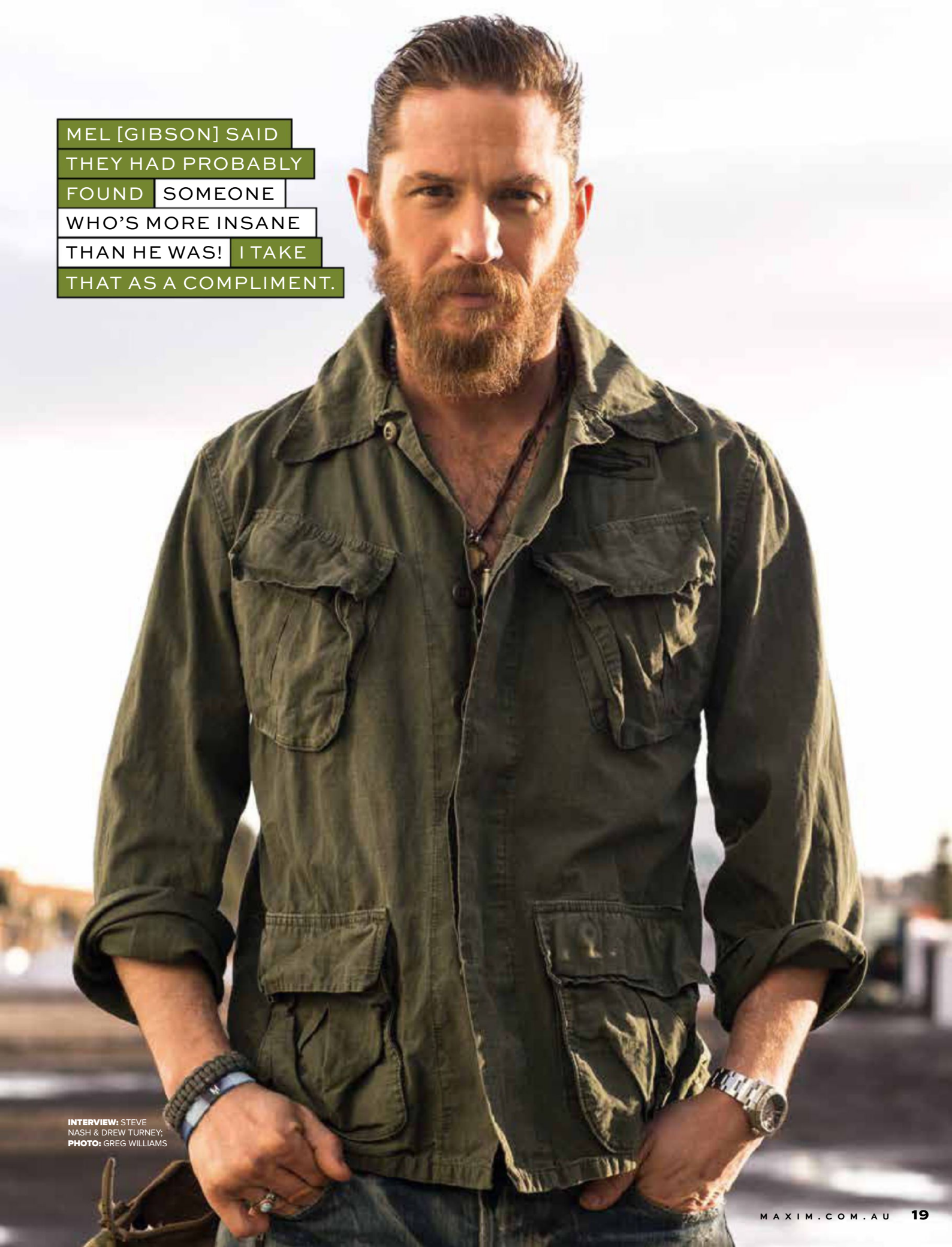
Some days I wasn't sure I could keep up with it. There's a lot riding on it. But I could be in much, much, worse places so you just pull your socks up, don't you? You get on with it. I'm getting paid to do something unbelievable. I'm living the dream.

## Would you do a second and third *Mad Max*?

Yeah, of course I would! These things largely depend on the performance of the vehicle. I have no shadow of doubt in my mind we'll be going out again. The film is awesome.

FOR MORE MAD MAX GOODNESS SEE PAGE 66





MEL [GIBSON] SAID  
THEY HAD PROBABLY  
FOUND SOMEONE  
WHO'S MORE INSANE  
THAN HE WAS! I TAKE  
THAT AS A COMPLIMENT.

INTERVIEW: STEVE  
NASH & DREW TURNEY;  
PHOTO: GREG WILLIAMS



# How to

## Win a Top Fuel Drag Race

Adelaide-born Richie Crampton created history last year by winning the world's biggest drag race, the Chevrolet Performance US Nationals, on its 60th anniversary – the first Aussie to do so. Here he gives us the inside line on handling his GEICO/Lucas Oil Top Fuel dragster

### THE STATS

**NAME:** Richie Crampton

**BORN:** July 9, 1980 in Adelaide

**ACHIEVEMENTS:**

Two NHRA Top Fuel career wins (2014 Toyota Summernationals; Chevrolet Performance US Nationals); 2014 NHRA Road to the Future (rookie of the year) award winner.

**FACT:** Richie was an NHRA team crewmember for Morgan Lucas Racing before he made the epic step-up to become their Top Fuel driver last year.



### IS IT TOUGH TO DO A BURNOUT WITH 10,000 HORSEPOWER ON TAP?

Doing a burnout is actually quite straightforward, but it's hard to keep the thing going exactly where you want it to. When you hit the throttle, even though we're only using part throttle, the car tries to jump off the ground and drift sideways so you have to keep all of that in check and hit your marks and lay down the rubber. It's a pretty awesome sensation, though. You've got that monster engine behind you roaring, and the harmonic vibrations go through the entire GEICO/Lucas Oil dragster and your body. It's pretty cool.

### WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE BURNOUT?

Once you've backed up behind the starting line area you have about two metres to roll forward again and that's your last opportunity to line up the dragster with the finish line or wherever you're trying to aim it. That is very critical when you cover so much ground so quickly. You really need to have the race car aimed in exactly the right direction otherwise you'll find yourself very quickly veering off the good part of the track – what we call 'out of the groove' – and nine times out of 10 you'll smoke the tyres if you do that.

### HOW DO YOU PREPARE FOR THE START?

Once I'm in that pre-staging area, my crew member will give me the nod, walk away – and from there I'll roll in, and turn the top staging light on. I'll wait and see if my opponent has turned theirs on, and once both top lights are on it's a quick little routine of closing my visor fully, pulling the fuel pump on all the way, letting my foot completely off the clutch and then holding the race car back with the handbrake. I'll use that brake to bump into the second full stage – and at that point the fully staged lights will come on, and if my opponent has done the same the lights will drop. As soon as you see amber you hit the throttle – and you have to



commit hard as under the throttle is a switch that activates the fuel, clutch and timing management systems. If you don't go hard, you risk damaging the engine.

### DOES THE POWER FEEL LIKE YOU'RE STRAPPED TO A ROCKET?

That's the best way to describe it. Your eyesight becomes extremely blurry, and the feeling of 6G of acceleration is unique. You're trying to push your foot down on the throttle as hard as you can, but 6Gs of force is doing its best to push you in the other direction. It really feels like if the racetrack was longer the thing would eventually take off and go into orbit. And that feeling of 6G of acceleration force on your entire body doesn't subside until you lift off the throttle at the finish line – and then you have to prepare yourself for the huge 8G of deceleration force as you pull up and the parachutes are activated.

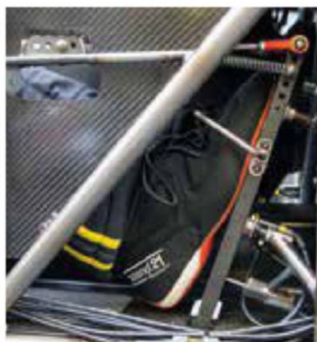
### HOW DO YOU KEEP THE GEICO/LUCAS OIL DRAGSTER STRAIGHT DOWN THE RUN?

It's very hard to see, so you have to use your peripheral vision to work out the location of the guardrail and centreline. You need to know where you are at all times, and with the finish line coming up so quickly you need to pay attention to ground markers to know when to lift off the throttle. You really don't have any time to look around, and your brain doesn't have time to process it in that short period of time. Everything is coming past you like you'd see in Star Wars when they do warp speed. I don't think I even breathe during that 3.5 to 4 seconds, with so much pressure on your body. It's like that sensation when you go over a dip on a roller coaster; you just tense down your chest and hold your stomach as tight as you can. The forces are unbelievable!

### WHAT CAN GO WRONG?

With any race car a lot of things can go wrong, like at Englishtown, New Jersey, last year when I had a flat front tyre at 509km/h. All you can do is

just try your best, and do the smartest, safest thing at the time. You also have to pay attention to what the motor is doing, because a catastrophic engine failure can cause it to blow up, and shower shrapnel – taking out the rear tyres and even the rear wing. You have to listen to it, but if you are not accelerating hard that's a good sign that something is wrong. Also, you don't want to lift unless you absolutely have to – there could be something wrong with the car, but you'll stay with it and hope it comes good again. Of course, with the blurred vision and the fact that you cover so much ground so fast, if you're not pointed in the right direction you can find yourself on the way to the scene of the accident. Naturally, as a professional Top Fuel racer, the team and I go to each event well-prepared – so that if things go wrong we're ready to handle it. ■





# Machines

## 2015 FORD MUSTANG

➔ Is there any better feeling than unleashing the throttle of a V8 Mustang down a long, open road? We're buggered if we can think of one... Previously only available in 2003 (in limited numbers) or as a converted import; this year the V8 Stang returns with a bang (and 4 cylinder EcoBoost option) – and will be the only Ford V8 available in Australia come 2016 when robots assemble their last Falcon XR8 and GT. While many V8s are known to suffer the odd asthma attack, that isn't the case here. Once this 5.0 litre's revs hit 4000rpm - with its naturally aspirated lungs full of air – it turns brutal and becomes as quick as a supercharged Falcon GT.

Up close, it has the ability to turn spectators into fanatics with the classic Mustang tri-taillights and sharp angles impressing anybody with taste and a pulse. Inside, the cabin steps up to rivals Chevrolet Camaro and BMW M4 with racecar dials/switches, a 4.2-inch touch screen requiring only a coffee break to master, and a king's driving position – although the rear seats could be mistaken for a parcel shelf.

With 15,000 potential buyers expressing interest on social media - including Holden loyalists who will soon be without a V8 – it's a safe bet the world's most-liked vehicle on Facebook won't have a problem finding its grip on our roads.







SPEC CHECK	
ENGINE	5.0 LITRE TI-CVT V8
TRANSMISSION	6 SPEED MANUAL, 6 SPEED AUTO
POWER	306KW
TOP SPEED	249 KM/H
0-100KM/H	4.6 SECONDS
FUEL CONSUMPTION	12.3L/100KM
\$ \$54,990 (MANUAL) \$57,490 (AUTO)	





# THE AKRAPOVIC FULL MOON CONCEPT

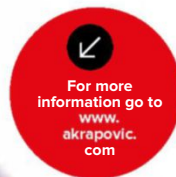
➔ Known for producing exhausts for every vehicle from the VW Golf to the Audi R18 E-Tron, Slovenian company Akrapovic have taken time away from the fumes to develop a concept motorcycle by fusing modern art with alien life forms – which ironically, has become a more exhausting project. Debuting at the recent Bad Salzuflen Custom Bike Show in Germany, the Full Moon gets its name from the oversized carbon/aluminum 30-inch front wheel, which is 13 inches wider than the one on a Ducati 1299

Panigale, and 11 inches wider than that on a Harley Davidson Road Glide.

We don't blame you for staring at that massive rear end. It doesn't hide the exhaust, it is the exhaust – with a 1,524cc S&S Knucklehead engine sitting between it and the frame for good measure and momentum. Ridewise, there is 'automated' steering controlled via electronics, a front wheel rim brake, hydraulic suspension for upright

parking, and two LEDs on low footrests which act as headlights – meaning leaning into corners would

result in unwanted fireworks. Developed in a way so as to avoid being categorized, this is a conceptual machine that belongs everywhere and nowhere – and Akrapovic couldn't be more stoked (unless it makes production of course).





## SPEC CHECK

ENGINE  
6.0 LITRE V12

TRANSMISSION  
7 SPEED PADDLE SHIFT

POWER  
421KW

TOP SPEED  
323KM/H

0-100KM/H  
4.1 SECONDS

FUEL CONSUMPTION  
14.7L/100KM/H

ESTIMATED AT  
\$418,525

## ASTON MARTIN VANTAGE ROADSTER

Need a 300km/h+ convertible but can't go over half a mill? While we envy your rich guy problems, we may have the solution. Lamborghini's Gallardo Spyder and the Porsche 911 S could get you past 300, and the Ferrari California and Audi R8 are also suitable candidates.

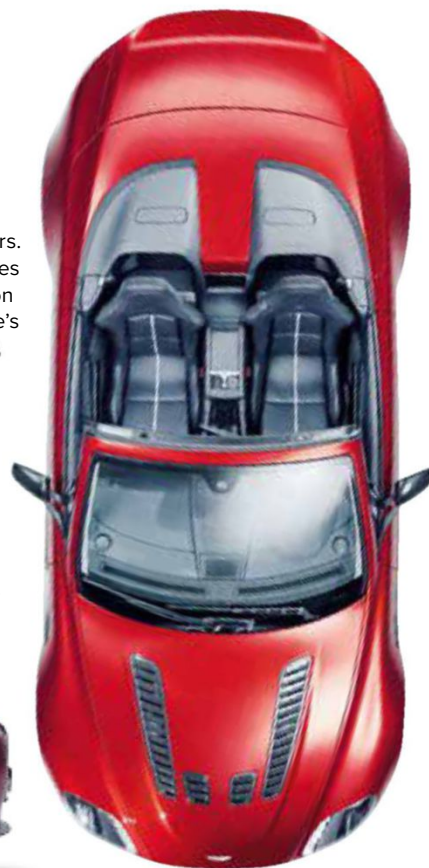
But there is another. Thanks to a group of Pommie engineers and their grinding tools, the Aston Martin coupe has become the Vantage S Roadster – complete with 323km/h top speed and endless sunshine.

The 100-year-strong Brit car club says its latest will become

its greatest-accelerating, production roadster ever – heavily influenced by race car engineering. In fact, like the coupe, it uses the same rear-mounted transmission used in the GT4, GT3 and GTE racing cars.

Also like the hardtop, it features flared wheel arches and a carbon fibre grille – although the Coupe's roof is a no-go obviously. Inside, a Carbon Pack provides all your carbon fibre needs... to the seats, door pulls, glovebox, and cigarette lighter.

Aston Martin design director Marek Reichman says the V12 Vantage S Roadster "is as spectacular to listen to as it is to look at" – and he's not wrong.



## DEEPFLIGHT SUPER FALCON MARK II

Thanks to the rise of personal submarines, a new era of exploration is taking off by going down



Forget the new space race. While we await the dawn of commercial rocket travel, the world has entered the age of the personal submarine. James Cameron has one. Red Bull's Dietrich Mateschitz, too. Even Richard Branson. And why not? We know more about

the surface of the moon than the bottom of the ocean. The latest electric crafts, aimed at nautically minded millionaires, are engineered to withstand crushing pressures and navigate narrow caverns.

The DeepFlight Super Falcon Mark II (pictured) has cockpit

controls and fins that let it perform like a fighter jet. While geared to the elite, the subs are also aiding exploration. In 2012, one caught the first-ever footage of a live giant squid.

DeepFlight founder Graham Hawkes believes the day is near when undersea travel will

open to the masses. He hopes we all can experience the thrill of sighting a great white shark or a whale. And the next era of exploration won't happen 30,000 feet down but higher, "in the twilight zone where these big animals are," says Hawkes. "That's the future."



Kawasaki

# Vulcan S

Do you want to ride?

## VULCAN S: COMMAND THE ROAD

The Vulcan S is not your average cruiser. It stands apart. Destroying the concepts of traditional cruiser design, the Vulcan S is built for the independent minded rider wanting to break out and confidently explore the road ahead.

Kawasaki  
**LEARNER  
APPROVED**

Available in  
Pearl Crystal White  
Metallic Royal Purple

Kawasaki Vulcan S, for those that want to ride



Professional Rider in Controlled Conditions

### ADJUST TO FIT YOUR BODY

Adjustable 3 position footpegs and optional handlebars, plus a choice of accessory seat so you can adapt the Vulcan S to better suit your body.

- Efficient & refined 649cc liquid-cooled parallel twin engine
- Smooth power delivery for easy control
- Lightweight and stable handling
- Low & slim seat for easy ground reach
- Supple adjustable suspension
- Smooth, Stable, Easy
- ABS standard equipment
- Large range of accessories available



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**Kawasaki**



# Kawasaki

## LEARNER APPROVED MOTORCYCLE RANGE



### Ninja 300 ABS

- Liquid cooled 296cm<sup>3</sup> parallel twin cylinder engine with fuel injection and class leading power and torque
- Easy to operate with a low seat height, smooth power delivery, excellent throttle response



30TH ANNIVERSARY (ABS)  
LIME GREEN

SPECIAL EDITION (ABS)  
METALLIC MOON DUST GRAY

SPECIAL EDITION (ABS)  
CANDY PLASMA BLUE

(NON-ABS)  
EBONY

(NON-ABS)  
PEARL STARDUST WHITE

### Vulcan S ABS

- 649cm<sup>3</sup> parallel twin engine
- Low overall weight and easy to manoeuvre
- Adjustable to suit your body
- Large range of genuine accessories available



METALLIC ROYAL  
PURPLE

PEARL CANDY WHITE

### Ninja 300 ABS

- 296cm<sup>3</sup> parallel twin engine
- Relaxed riding position
- World's first 300cc street fighter



CANDY FLAT  
BLAZED GREEN

METALLIC RAW  
GRAYSTONE

### Ninja 250SL ABS

- 249cm<sup>3</sup> engine mounted in a trellis frame
- Sporty, slim and lightweight
- Non-ABS version also available



CANDY BURNT ORANGE

### Ninja 650L ABS

- Easy to use 649cm<sup>3</sup> liquid-cooled, fuel injected, parallel twin engine
- Smooth and responsive user friendly performance



CANDY LIME GREEN

METALLIC SPARK BLACK

### ER-6nL ABS

- Easy to use 649cm<sup>3</sup> liquid-cooled, fuel injected, parallel twin engine
- User friendly low seat height



CANDY LIME GREEN

METALLIC RED

### VERYS 650L ABS

- Easy to use liquid-cooled, fuel injected, parallel twin engine
- Touring potential
- Genuine accessories available



METALLIC SPARK BLACK

### KLR 650

- User friendly liquid-cooled engine
- Geared for trail riding and highway cruising



CANDY LIME  
GREEN

METALLIC FLAT  
RAW GRAYSTONE

### KLX 250S

- Weekday Commuter/Weekend Warrior
- Liquid-cooled DOHC 4-stroke



LIME GREEN

### KLX 150L

- Light and easy to handle
- Dependable electric starting
- Economical 4-stroke engine



LIME GREEN

[kawasaki.com.au/learner](http://kawasaki.com.au/learner)

Please check with the relevant authority to determine state licensing eligibility or consult with a Kawasaki dealer for more information. Overseas models shown.



Kawasaki Insurance Kawasaki Motors Finance

**Kawasaki**



# UNREAL RIDES

FIVE OF THE GREATEST  
MOTORCYCLES FROM  
MOVIES AND TV  
— AND THE  
CHANCES YOU  
HAVE OF TAKING  
A SPIN ON ONE  
YOURSELF

Anti-clockwise from  
top: Harley-Davidson  
Fat Boy, Captain  
America, the Batpod,  
Triumph TR-6 Trophy,  
Harley-Davidson Dyna  
Super Glide Sport



Now that  
*Sons of  
Anarchy*

is over, TV's stock of supercool motorcycles (customised Harley Davidsons, specifically) will shrink dramatically. So, we thought we would select our five favourite fictional rides — and tip you off to whether you can buy them (or something like them — hello, Batpod) in the real world



**Captain America**  
*Easy Rider*

Dripping with chrome and decked out with a Stars and Stripes finish painted by Kustom Kulture legend Kenny "Von Dutch" Howard, the chopper ridden by Peter Fonda embodied the counterculture spirit of the 1960s. Though the fate of the original remains unknown, countless replicas still roam the Earth.



**The Batpod** *The Dark Knight and The Dark Knight Rises*

The Batpod offers a dystopian take on the two-wheeler. The brainchild of Lucius Fox, this outrageous ride sits on giant 508-millimetre tires and comes equipped with an arsenal of weapons. The bike's motor sounds were inspired by Tesla Roadsters, though several enthusiastic entrepreneurs have built gas-powered replicas.



**Harley Davidson Super Glide**  
*Sons of Anarchy*

Key to Jax Teller's outlaw persona is his blacked-out 2003 Harley-Davidson Dyna Super Glide Sport. The bike — with its T-bars and signature SOA front fairing — was customized for the show, but there's no shortage of similarly modified Super Glides. You can pick up a new custom ride for about US\$14,000.



**McQueen's Triumph Trophy**  
*The Great Escape*

Bud Ekins, stunt driver for Steve McQueen, set the gold standard for motorcycle jumps when he vaulted a barbed-wire fence on a beefy Triumph TR-6 Trophy 650CC modified to resemble a WWII-era BMW. The actual bike disappeared after filming; however, in 2011, Triumph issued a limited edition replica that sells for about US \$17,000.



**Harley Davidson Fat Boy** *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*

Schwarzenegger toted a sawed-off Winchester shotgun in this *Terminator* sequel, but the most visually imposing weapon in his arsenal might have been his 1990 Fat Boy. Two of these big-bore cruisers were used in the flick; one now resides in the permanent collection of the Harley Davidson Museum. A new Fat Boy can be had for around US\$18,000.



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# LAUREN

IN BED WITH

PHOTOS: DARYL WHEELER





# BRANT

She's out of the jungle and back in her real bed for another exclusive **MAXIM** cover shoot. So, sit back and relax with us as we join *I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!* star Lauren Brant inside her boudoir for a cheeky chat







Hey Lauren, how does it feel to be on the cover of **MAXIM** for a second time?

I am so happy to be on the cover of **MAXIM** again. It is always such a fun experience shooting for you guys and I'm thrilled the last cover was so well received that you asked me back to do another.

**What have you been up to since we last saw you?**

Well, I'm pleased to say that I got engaged to the man of my dreams. I also went on a crazy adventure to South Africa and appeared in *I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!*

**Congrats on the engagement. Lucky guy! What did you love about doing *I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!*?**

I loved seeing how far I could push myself, especially when I thought I was at breaking point.

**The food challenges were crazy, and saw you eat lots of weird shit like bugs, testicles, etc... but you nailed them.**

**How did you feel doing this?**

The food trials were disgusting. I told myself that people didn't expect me to be able to do it, which is all I needed to make sure I ate every last thing that was part of the trial.

**Who did you get on best with out of all the other celebs?**

I loved being in there with Joel [Creasey, comedian].

We got on really well because we are both straight shooters and a little feisty, but still very caring and loyal.

**What was it like having to shower in your bikini?**

It was so weird not getting naked for three weeks, due to not having privacy. It's the first thing I did when I got to my hotel room.

**Last time we spoke you told us that you can't beat the feeling of soft sheets on bare skin. And here we are with this shoot – bare skin and bedsheets. How does it feel?**

I feel best when I am comfortable. This shoot was definitely comfortable being in my bed and was also playful. It's me just being me.

**How much time do you spend in your bedroom each day?**  
It depends if it's a weekday or weekend.

**Have you ever spent a whole day in your bedroom?**

Yes for sure. Especially on a rainy day, the only time you need to leave is because you want to get more snacks for your TV marathon.

**How big is your bedroom?**  
**Big enough for a girl who has a lot of things.**

**Does it have a bathroom?**  
Yes.

**What about a TV?**  
No, I try to keep my bedroom very calm and relaxed. It's my chill out zone.

**What is your favourite thing to do in your bedroom?**  
Not sleep.

**What's the strangest thing you've done in there?**  
A **MAXIM** photo shoot.

**When is it OK to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner in bed?**

When you are sick, when it's raining or when you have just worked really hard for a really long time and deserve to be completely lazy.

**What is your favourite thing about your bedroom?**  
It's private and it's all so comfortable.

**It looks comfy. If people saw your bedroom right now would you be embarrassed?**  
No. It's the first room to get cleaned in my house.

**What is under your bed?**  
Nothing... that I know of!

**Have you hidden anything in your bedroom?**  
Yes, spare keys.

**Finally, tell us a secret about yourself?**  
It wouldn't be a secret if I told you.

“ I am so happy to be on the cover of **MAXIM** again. It is always such a fun experience shooting for you guys. ”







“ This shoot  
was definitely  
comfortable, being  
in my bed, and was  
also playful. ”







## Status Update

**HOMETOWN:**

Gold Coast,  
Queensland.

**BORN:**

February 24, 1989.

**FACEBOOK:**

officiallaurenbrant

**INSTAGRAM:**

@laurenbrant

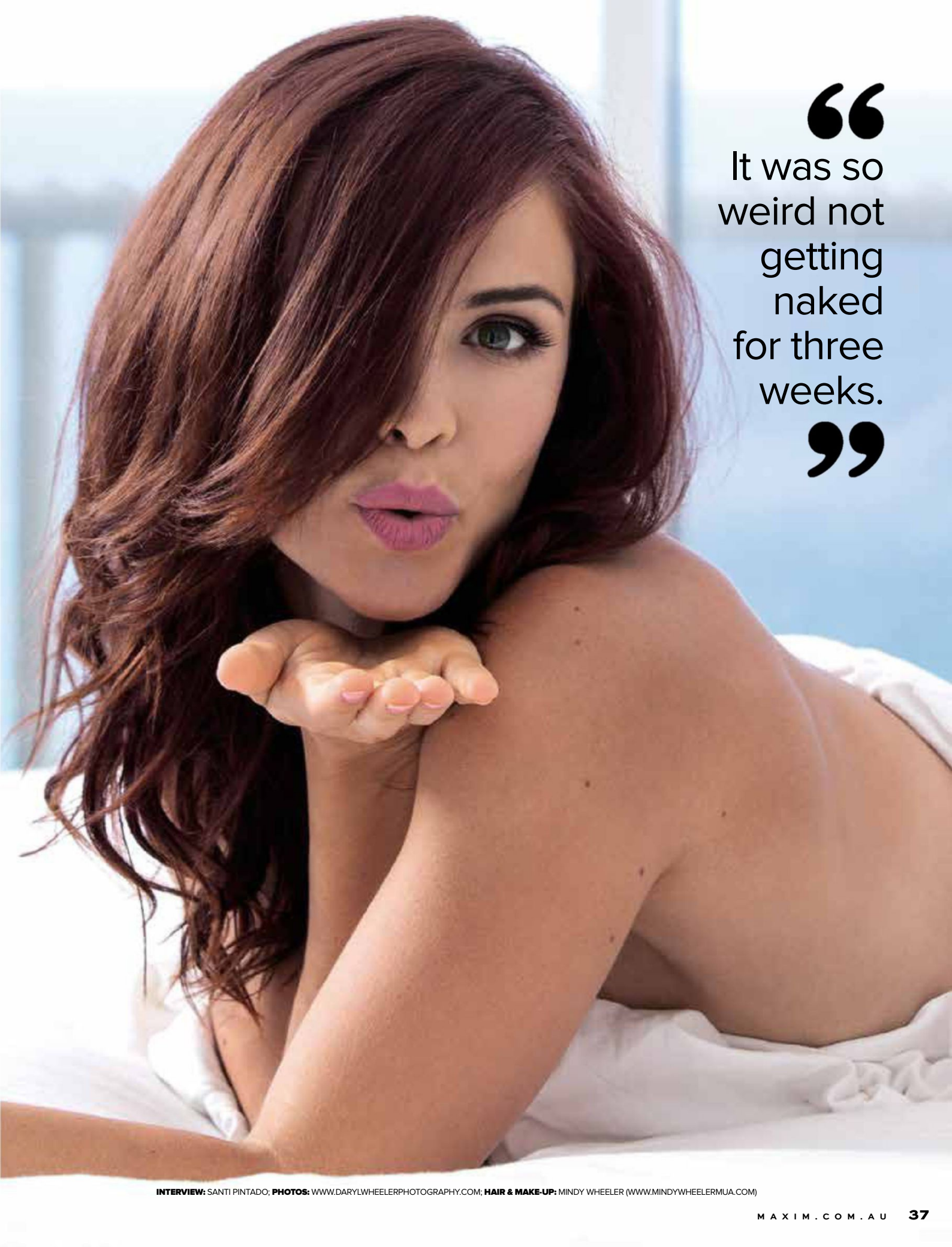
**TWITTER:**

@lauren\_brant









“  
It was so  
weird not  
getting  
naked  
for three  
weeks.  
”



# T H E MAVERICK

Mark Cuban has a reputation for being brash and impulsive, for thinking big and defying the powers that be. But the real secret to his success? Doing his homework.

WORDS: TOM FOSTER

**M**ark Cuban has just finished eviscerating a contestant on US reality show *Shark Tank*, for which he works as one of the judges, or “sharks,” who listen to pitches from aspiring entrepreneurs. I can’t divulge what the contestant was pitching, but suffice it to say, it’s an idea with a good shot at winning him buy-in.

For a guy known for his outspokenness, he is often a quiet presence on the *Shark Tank* set, sitting serenely in a riveted red-leather armchair, jotting his thoughts in a notebook, occasionally making a pained expression, squinting, or pursing his lips. He doesn’t have an especially good poker face — or maybe he’s broadcasting his thoughts for effect, so he doesn’t disappear from the cameras completely. Either way, Cuban tends to sit back and study the action while his co-sharks engage with a contestant — until, inevitably, the moment comes when he can’t hold it in any longer.

Then, fireworks.

“My bullshit meter is going nuts!” he tells the contestant, who has repeatedly made vague references to academic studies that vouch for his product, or maybe for the general idea of his product. It’s not clear if the contestant — a former Eagle Scout — is being disingenuous or is simply a poor communicator; either way, Cuban is having

none of it. Bullshit is one thing he does not tolerate. He tries several times to force a straight answer, and when it doesn’t come, he can barely hide his disgust.

When the pitch session finally ends, the sharks, their handlers, and crew members mass around the snack buffet to hash out what just happened. “It amazes me; people come out knowing Mark’s going to be here and make claims like this guy,” says fellow cast member Robert Herjavec. Someone else mentions that the show keeps a psychologist on hand for situations like these, when a contestant “gets shit on.”

Every good episode has a high-drama showdown like this one, and Cuban relishes his ability to make the most of them. “I love those. You know me — I have fun,” he tells me as he refills his coffee and heads off to get his make-up touched up, leaving everyone else buzzing in his wake. After a mostly tranquil day on set, he has shown, once again, why he is the show’s undisputed star.

*Shark Tank* is the most popular US show on Friday nights among the coveted 18-to-49-year-old viewers. The audience has grown to roughly eight million people a week since its 2009 premiere. By comparison, the last season finale of *Game of Thrones* had just over seven million viewers. Part of *Shark Tank*’s appeal is that

it’s arguably the most real show on reality television: The contestants are pursuing genuine business ventures, and the judges are investing their own money. Cuban, who joined the cast in the show’s third season, likes to say *Shark Tank* succeeds because it’s a validation of the American dream. It’s a show about ingenuity, pluck, money, and playing to win. Families watch it together: Parents teach kids about valuations and equity, brand building, and retail strategy.

Cuban himself is a validation of the American dream — a self-made man whose net worth, according to *Forbes*, is around US\$2.7 billion — but that’s only part of his appeal. Once roundly considered a blowhard arriviste, the overgrown bro who invaded the old boys’ club of NBA owners when he bought the Dallas Mavericks in 2000, he’s become, over the years, something more like the league’s voice of reason. The Mavs, once perennial punch-line fodder, are now firmly entrenched in the NBA elite. Cuban, who’s been fined about US\$1.7 million by the league over the years, mostly for running off at the mouth, now just as often shapes NBA policy. Among *Shark Tank* fans, he’s loved for being at once brutally honest, competitive, and surprisingly generous — for calling bullshit on bullshitters, yes, but also for the thoughtful advice he sometimes







# PLAYING FOR KEEPS

The record-setting career of Mark Cuban.



## MONEYMAKER

As Cuban once said, "Money is a scoreboard." On July 17, 1998, the first public shares of his online streaming service, Broadcast.com, reached record heights on the stock market. Offered at US\$18 apiece, they closed at US\$62 1/4. That's a 249 percent leap—at the time, the best one-day gain in history.



## BIG SPENDER

Soon after selling Broadcast.com to Yahoo for US\$5.7 billion, Cuban bought a US\$40 million Gulfstream V jet on his computer—earning a Guinness World Record for the largest online purchase ever.

offers entrepreneurs, even when he's not investing. The frat boy image, it turns out, is true only to the extent that anyone's life can be reduced to a cartoon. And there's a lot to learn from his particular brand of success—and notoriety.

If all you knew about Mark Cuban was that he owned a pro sports team and starred on a hit TV show, you'd probably think he was a fairly busy, high-achieving guy. The reality is that he has his hands in more than 100 companies, including some he owns with longtime business partner Todd Wagner, and others he has invested in and advised. He has a movie distribution company, Magnolia Pictures, and a chain of arty movie theatres. He has a TV network, AXS (formerly HDNet), and more than a few tech companies in his portfolio. And through *Shark Tank*, he has invested in everything from a stand-up-paddleboard maker to a sippy-cup

maker and something called the Los Angeles Haunted Hayride. Oh, and he's got a scaldingly hot wife and three kids.

It's easy to look at all that and chalk it up to the advantages of being a billionaire: After all, opportunity flows to the wealthy, right? But 30-some years ago, none of it existed, and Cuban was just the working-class son of a Pittsburgh auto upholsterer, putting himself through college at Indiana University. During his senior year, he embarked on his first entrepreneurial adventure, using his student-loan money to buy a local bar, Motley's Pub, that was going out of business. Cubes and his buddies turned out to be good party promoters, and the place was an instant hit, with lines out the door. He might still be there, tending bar and hitting on coeds,

if not for his first brush with infamy: One night the bar threw a wet T-shirt contest, and the local newspaper ran a story about it with a picture of the winner, who turned out to be a 16-year-old girl on probation for prostitution. Oops.

Motley's didn't survive the scandal, and soon after he graduated, Cuban headed west to boomtown Dallas in pursuit of the American trifecta: sunshine, money, and attractive women. He was "poor as f—k" and moved into a three-bedroom apartment he shared with five other guys; he slept on the floor. He landed a job at a software retailer in town and set out to learn the business. He didn't know a thing about computers but figured nobody else did yet, either—and that meant he'd get

a head start.

The job didn't last—Cuban got fired when he defied his boss and went to meet with a potential client one morning rather than show up and sweep the shop floors—but before he left, he managed to establish two

of the hallmarks of his success. One, he recognised a hot industry that would only get hotter, and two, he did more homework than everyone else, in the belief that if he armed himself with more information than the competition, he'd make more sales. This simple philosophy, it's worth noting, comes from his favourite quote, courtesy of legendary hotheaded basketball coach Bobby Knight: "Everyone has the will to win. It's those that prepare to win that do." "I'd stay up all night reading the software manuals," Cuban remembers. If a customer had a question, he had a ready answer.

By the time he got fired, the cramming-for-finals strategy had paid off enough that one of his corporate clients agreed to put up a few hundred dollars for him to start his own software sales firm. Cuban is

the first to point out that he didn't have an inherent passion for computer systems. It was the sense of competition that drove him to launch MicroSolutions; he wanted to win in what he calls "the sport of business." Win he did. After seven years, he sold MicroSolutions for US\$6 million, which, after he paid taxes and distributed money to his 80 employees, left him with about \$2 million for himself.

"I started living like a rock star," he says. "I was trying to sleep with as many girls as I could, drink as much as I could." One of his first rich-guy purchases was a lifetime pass on American Airlines, a US\$125,000 investment that allowed him and a guest to travel anywhere, anytime, for the rest of his life. He'd fly to LA to take acting classes and meet women, then hop a plane to Vegas for the night or Barcelona for the weekend. He became a regular in Puerto Vallarta.

Two million was a lot of money, especially in the late '80s, but it's not the kind of money that lasts forever, so Cuban started trading stocks. Over the next six years he grew his fortune tenfold, until he was sitting on more than US\$20 million. "I killed it as a trader," he says. "I was doing so well that a bunch of guys from Goldman Sachs came to me, took my trading records, and we created a hedge fund that we sold less than a year later." At which point Cuban was ready to get serious again.

Just as MicroSolutions had caught the PC wave early, Cuban's next start-up, Audionet (later Broadcast.com), was quick to the consumer Internet. It was 1995, and Cuban recognised that, although the Web was mostly a text-based tool, people would soon be using it for audio and video. Four years later, at the height of the late-'90s dot-com bubble, Yahoo bought the company for US\$5.7 billion, of which Cuban was able to keep about a third.

If he was living like a rock star in the early '90s, he entered the 2000s living like... well, a 40-year-old billionaire. He gave his

HE'S LOVED FOR BEING  
BRUTALLY HONEST,  
COMPETITIVE, AND...  
FOR CALLING BULLSHIT  
ON BULLSHITTERS





### MAVERICK

In 2000, Cuban paid a then-record US\$285 million to buy the Dallas Mavericks NBA team from Ross Perot Jr. When *Forbes* valued the team at US\$765 million in January 2014, Cuban said the figure was “way too low.” He was right: Four months later, Steve Ballmer (pictured above) offered \$2 billion for the LA Clippers.



### TRASH-TALKER

In 2002, Cuban received an NBA-record US\$500,000 fine for criticising the league's director of officials. “Ed Rush might have been a great ref,” he said, “but I wouldn't hire him to manage a Dairy Queen.” In April, Cuban lost the mark to Donald Sterling, who earned a US\$2.5 million fine for his boneheaded racist slurs. Not to worry: Cubes still owns the record for most fines received (20).



### HUMANITARIAN

In 2012, Cuban offered to pay US\$1 million for a haircut. The catch? The haircut was for his outspoken nemesis Donald Trump (above), who had to shave his whole head. Cuban volunteered to donate the money to the charity of Trump's choice. “Only one mill dollars?” Trump tweeted. “Offer me real money and I'd consider it.”

lifetime airline pass to his dad and bought himself a Gulfstream V, the longest-range private jet on the market, which he snared for US\$40 million and paid for, naturally, over the Internet. He added a big empty mansion in Dallas' toniest neighbourhood, bought the local hoops team, got himself fined for “conduct unbecoming of an NBA owner” (for sitting on the floor on the sideline during a game – which he continued to do until the league stopped fining him). He bought his way into the movie business, did a stint on *US Dancing with the Stars*, got thrown through a table on *WWE Raw*. And somewhere in there, the act of being Mark Cuban became a very big business of its own.

To get a better sense of how Cuban thinks and works, consider the NBA's clear-path foul rules. It used to be that such a foul resulted in one free throw plus possession for the team that had been fouled. That didn't smell right to Cuban, so one day a few years ago, he decided to investigate the probability of scoring an uncontested layup versus that of making a free throw and scoring on the following possession. It turned out that it was in the defensive team's best interest to commit a clear-path foul rather than allow a breakaway – which didn't make any sense. Cubes presented his case to the league, which subsequently changed the rule so that the foul resulted in two free throws plus possession. That changed the equation enough that the defense suddenly had good reason not to commit a clear-path foul – clearly a fairer situation.

The lesson, says Cuban: Just because it ain't broke doesn't mean it's optimal. It's a very Cubesian way of thinking, a data-driven form of dissent. Like so many of his peers in the start-up culture, Cuban looks for weaknesses in the established order and attempts to disrupt them with a better way. And just as he became a successful software salesman by arming himself with

knowledge, he creates disruptive change by first doing the research to make a case – then selling the shit out of it.

Today he is excited about another NBA rule he's been trying to alter. Not surprisingly, he hates flopping, the practice of players throwing themselves to the ground in order to incite foul calls from the refs. To Cuban, it's the equivalent of being a bullshit artist. Rather than just bitch about it, he put down US\$100,000 to fund a study on flopping by a team of biomechanical engineers at SMU. The researchers wired a bunch of players with motion-capture technology, put them in contact situations, and analysed the forces at work to learn the true effects of various collisions. “The answer so far is no,” Cuban says of the early results. “If you run into a guy, it's not natural for him just to fall on his ass.” He smiles, no doubt imagining how he's going to use this information to change the game.

Biometrics – the study of data related to our bodies – has become one of Cuban's secret weapons. Every Mavs player, for instance, has his blood drawn and analysed four times a year. Cuban does it, too. “If you get sick, that's the worst time to take blood,” he explains. “It's one of the dumbest things doctors do. They take your sick blood and compare it to the general population's. What we want to know is, if Dirk [Nowitski, the Mavs' longtime power forward] has had thyroid levels here for the past four years, and suddenly they're down here, what is going on? And you can't see that variation unless you establish a baseline.”

The Mavs employ an in-house psychologist who travels to each game with the team for a similar reason. Historically, Cuban says, when players had personal issues, they had to take them up with the coach. “But you can never be totally honest with the coach, because the coach controls playing time! So we just have someone there for whenever they need to talk – and

the number one rule is that I have no idea how many sessions the players have, or what they talk about.”

I should mention that Cuban is peeing during part of this conversation, and I'm standing awkwardly a few feet away with the door open between us. We've just returned from lunch in a hangar-size building a few hundred yards from the *Shark Tank* soundstage, and we stopped in his little trailer just off set. The sharks wear the same clothes all season long, so that shoots from different days can be spliced together to create seamless episodes, and Cuban desperately needed to change into an identical crisp white shirt – the one he wore all morning had turned orange around the collar. It was a little odd as he stood bare-chested in front of me, and odd again as he fumbled over and over with his cuff links and I offered to help. But none of that seemed to register with him, so I shouldn't have been surprised when he stepped into the next room and started whizzing. I mention this because it illustrates Cuban's particular brand of (pardon the pun) cockiness. For all the homework he does and the data he gathers, he can still give off the air of a dude snapping towels in a locker room.

Also, I can confirm the dude is a well-taken-care-of 56-year-old – no doubt partly because of his constantly monitored biometrics. He takes thyroid medication these days because his blood work showed an inconsistency. He had a hip replaced a few years ago, and he's about to do the other one. He gets steroid shots in his back so he can keep playing hoops with his buddies. He stopped drinking beer in 2012 – to avoid “wheat belly” – and now sticks to Tito's vodka and soda. He's also remarkably ageless, with an almost complete lack of wrinkles on his face.

Last spring, at the height of the controversy surrounding then-LA Clippers owner Donald Sterling's racist comments,



Cuban made headlines for his own insensitive remarks. At a conference for entrepreneurs, he professed to having “bigoted” thoughts, describing a hypothetical situation in which he crosses the street at night when he sees a black guy in a hoodie and again when he sees a white guy with tattoos and a shaved head. The tweet-storm that followed added copious fuel to an already raging national debate, and Cuban watched, for the millionth time, as a quote of his took on a life of its own and defined him in a way he thought was deeply unfair. Cuban later apologised for the hoodie reference, which evoked Trayvon Martin (Google it).

The episode came at a moment when Cuban had become increasingly worked up about privacy. Late in 2013 he won a five-year court battle with the SEC over insider-trading allegations. His e-mails and blogs and social media posts were all subpoenaed in the process and, he says, the prosecution used many of his quotes out of context and distorted them. He spent more on legal fees than he would have if he’d just settled the case, but for him going to battle was a matter of principle, just as it had been when he was fined US\$100,000 by the NBA for sitting on the floor, cross-legged, during a Mavs game. “I am glad this happened to me,” Cuban told reporters after the jury sided with him. “I’m glad I can afford to stand up to the SEC.”

Ever the entrepreneur, Cuban decided that this experience of having his private messages used against him presented a business opportunity. He launched a new company called Cyber Dust, which makes a messaging app that works something like a combination of Twitter and Snapchat, but with the key difference that nothing gets stored on the company’s servers – when the message disappears, it’s gone forever. He’s also invested in a company called Xpire, which allows users to select the time when their Facebook posts and Twitter messages will self-destruct.

Over the course of our conversations, Cuban steers the subject back to privacy again and again. “Man, you’ve got to shrink your digital footprint,” he says. “The minute you hit send on a text, you don’t own it anymore, but you’re still responsible for it. Think about what that means. What you create on social media, who you follow, the information from your e-mails, how you write, the pictures you save on Dropbox... All that together creates a profile that’s even more detailed than how you know yourself. People should be freaked out about that.”

The SEC experience prompted this outrage, but lately it has bled more into his private life. “I started thinking about every text I’ve ever sent. I don’t know who kept it

or what they might do with it. It could have been the most innocuous thing, a joke to a friend. ‘Oh, you motherf—ker, you son of a bitch, I’m going to kick your ass.’ What if that friend gets pissed at me for something, and kept that text? Boom, I’m done with. I think about my 10-year-old daughter. She doesn’t text yet, but the day is coming when she sends the most benign text to some idiot kid, and he is going to f—k with her.”

Cuban’s expanding celebrity, thanks largely to *Shark Tank*, has also contributed to his cautiousness. “Mark doesn’t go out in Dallas much anymore; it’s just too crazy,” says Brian Dameris, a longtime buddy and employee.

At heart, though, Cuban is still a jock from Pittsburgh, a man of the people, so he avoids the easy temptation to insulate himself from the world. He sits in the stands with regular fans at Mavs games, buys microwave dinners at 7-Eleven, answers his own e-mails, doesn’t employ a publicist. “We don’t have servants, we don’t have butlers – at home it’s just us!” he says. “My biggest fear now is that my kids are going to be assholes. I don’t want them to be entitled jerks, so we try to do everything as a family, try to keep as normal as possible.” Does he have a driver, I ask him, so he can sit in the back like most moguls and wrangle player contracts? “F—k no, I don’t have a driver,” he says, offended that I’d even suggest it. “I have a Lexus, I drive myself.”

Mark Cuban is a lot of things, but chief among them is that he’s a businessman. He wants to make money, a lot of it. It’s not altogether surprising, then, that despite his concern about digital privacy and high hopes for Cyber Dust, one of his other companies, Motionloft, tracks pedestrians as they pass stores, providing retailers with info they can use to target customers. It’s the kind of thing that gives privacy advocates fits. Forget digital footprints. Now our actual footprints can be monitored for commercial reasons, too.

Cuban shrugs when I ask him if he’s being a little hypocritical by investing in Motionloft. “Of course, yeah. I’m playing both sides against the middle,” he says. “If people don’t care and Cyber Dust doesn’t do as well, Motionloft takes off.” Similarly, he recently invested in a digital publishing start-up called Ratter, conceived by ex-Gawker editor A.J. Daulerio, that aims to be a network of aggressive, salacious local tabloids.

That Cuban invests in companies that traffic in things he says he hates is a perfect illustration of what makes him such an

enigma. It’s easy to view the contradictions as evidence that he’s amoral and impulsive, even reckless. He sees it as evidence that he’s cautious and calculated. “I tell people all the time I’m not a crazy risk taker,” he says. Sometimes that requires hedging his bets. Sometimes it means passing on opportunities with limited upsides. At one point during the *Shark Tank* shoot, he declines to back a pair of entrepreneurs

because the investment they’re seeking doesn’t jibe with the potential payoff, despite

the decent likelihood that the company will triple or quadruple

his money. As Cuban explained to me later, it would have been a “no-brainer” if he thought the deal would gain him a twentyfold return.

In general, though, Cuban’s protection against making bad bets is, as always, to do more homework than anyone else. “You can’t get anything over on him,” says Dameris. “His gift is consuming information. He takes it all in, reads a thousand e-mails a day, runs the Mavs and all these other businesses, and manages to process it all. If he asks you a question and you try to fake an answer, he knows. He’ll be like, ‘I read that yesterday in the Journal, and the reality is this and this and this.’” Whenever Cuban looks like he’s improvising, say, when he signed the free agent forward Chandler Parsons in a nightclub, you can bet a good amount of preparation went into the moment.

As the long day of shooting winds down, Cuban agrees to act out a few stock lines that can be used to punctuate the footage of the day’s pitches. It starts with some subdued, rehearsed-sounding quotes. He squints his eyes just so, miming intense deliberation. “I should have been out earlier. I’m out now,” he says. “I don’t see any way you’re ever going to be profitable. I don’t see a path to profitability. I’m out.” He starts building in intensity, the lines getting more bite as he goes. “I have no interest in this area at all. I’m out. Time is my most valuable asset, and I’m giving none of it to you. I’m out.” He lowers his eyes in mock scolding. “This is a bad idea. I’m out.”

He starts hamming for the camera, a rapid succession of facial expressions that might get edited in at some point – a raised eyebrow, a deep sigh, a belly laugh, an eager lick of the lips. He’s on a roll now, having fun, just Cuban being Cuban, seeming almost oblivious to the cameras and recording equipment.

“I’m out, you bitch-ass motherf—ker. I will kick your ass!”

He stands up to go. He has work to do. ■

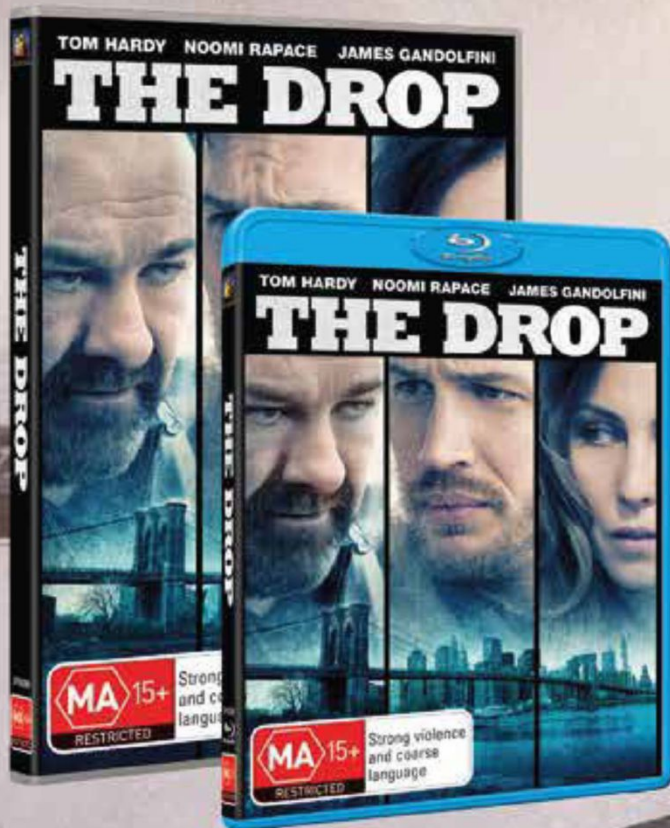
HE HAS HIS HANDS  
IN MORE THAN 100  
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TOM HARDY NOOMI RAPACE JAMES GANDOLFINI

# THE DROP

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- Nick Dent, Daily Telegraph: The Insider



- David Stratton, At the Movies



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## ANATOMY OF AN ATHLETE

# THE JOCKEY

From the Golden Slipper to Sydney, Caulfield and Melbourne Cups to Hong Kong and the Singapore Gold Cup, 24-year-old Champion Australian jockey **TOMMY BERRY** has quickly establishing himself as one of the best riders on the planet. Here he tells us what it takes to be just that...

### TRAINING



I get up 3:20am and drive to track work which I start at about 4am. I'll ride anything from about six to eight horses then get home by 7:30am-8am and have an hour sleep. Then get up and have a sweat for one or two hours to lose between one and two kilos. Some jockeys will use a sauna to do this but I do mine in a hot bath with a heater and the door shut – it becomes like a bit of a steam room. Then I'll go to the races, if I have races during the day, two or three days a week, then work out at the gym before coming back home to usually do a bit of form work – studying the form guide – before going to bed. I do track work every day and train in the gym two or three days a week. During the carnival I'll do four days a week.

### MUSCLES



The most important muscle groups in a jockey's body are the legs and arms. They definitely have to be strong but your abdomen and general stomach area and inner core muscle have to be the strongest parts of your body because you're obviously getting down low on a horse and when horses pull, you tighten up those muscles. Again, swimming really helps with this, plus a lot of sit-ups.

### MENTALITY



In order to be at the top of your game you have to have the mental strength to be ready for hard work and know that every day is different. You have to be able to get through the ups and downs and it's very important to have the right support around you because it can be a depressing game and it definitely has its highs and lows. The highs are great but the lows are very low. There's a lot of jockeys over the years who have suffered from depression so it's important to have good people around you. And it's a very time consuming game. You work very hard and sometimes it can be for little gain, so it makes it hard with putting your body through what you're putting it through.

### PLAN



Before a race you've got to plan where you're going to be during the race, what the horses are to follow, or the best chances, when you're going to get going and also know in the back of your head that every horse is different and to ride them to their advantage. So there are a few things going through your head. A lot of the time 50 per cent of the plan doesn't work out and that's where you have to be able to adjust. If you don't have a plan it just means you haven't done your form work. You go through all the other horses in the race and their replays. Obviously I've been racing in Australia for a long time so I know most of the horses going around and usually where they position themselves, their form and how good they are. I always go back and do my form and see where other horses are going to sit.

“

I had a horse flip over on me and rupture my spleen and had a bit of internal bleeding.

”



## SETBACKS



Be prepared for injuries and suspensions. The latter usually occurs two to three times a year. I get one every 12 months. Getting suspended isn't a bad thing it just shows that the stewards are doing their jobs. The most common thing jockeys are suspended for are not giving two lengths clear when you are crossing in front of someone, that's the safety requirement, and a lot of jockeys misjudge it and cut them a bit short. Most riders get suspended about 40 times a year. As for injuries, some jockeys are lucky with them others aren't. The worst injury I've had was when I was doing track work and had a horse flip over on me and rupture my spleen and had a bit of internal bleeding but that's nothing compared to jockeys breaking bones and stuff like that.

## FOCUS



Going around the barriers and behind them before a race I always have a bit of a laugh with my mates and the other jockeys, but as soon as I walk into the barriers the adrenaline takes over and I'm very focussed on what I have to get done. We're all there to do a job and don't talk about what each of us are going to do during the race. During any race I look for what horses to get on to follow and other horses weakening. Obviously you're always following a horse in the race unless you're in front. You want to make sure you're on the back of the right horse to take you into the race. If you're in front you want to know how quick you're going.

## WINNING



It's hard to explain the feeling when you win a race. I guess it's like winning a gold medal or reaching a grand final. It's all that satisfaction. As I said, you work very hard and racing is our life not just a job. We live and breathe it every day.

## DIET



Every jockey has a different way they watch their weight. I find when I eat fruit my weight is pretty good. So I eat a lot of fruit, a lot of salads, and at least once or twice a week I'll eat a bit of meat or chicken. My weight is not that bad so I can afford to eat more than once or twice a week, whereas some jockeys are on a strict diet six days a week.

## EXPERT ADVICE



You don't get any second chances in racing and you pretty much have to put 110% into it straight away. It's not easy. It's not something everyone can do. You have got to be prepared to work very hard for little gain at the start and pretty much earn to get the good rides and get a win later on. Patience is the key. If you haven't got patience you won't make it in this game.



Tommy Berry celebrates winning the 2013 (left) and 2015 (below) Golden Slipper





# ANATOMY OF AN ATHLETE

## THE UFC FIGHTER

He's only 19, he's the youngest male fighter on the current UFC roster, he's so far undefeated in his MMA career, he's from Melbourne, and he's even been singled out by UFC President Dana White who predicts a long future for him in the UFC.

Meet **JAKE MATTHEWS**



### How'd you get into this?

I first started MMA training when I was 15. I was playing representative football in Melbourne and I needed something to do to keep fit in the off-season. I had a couple of mates doing kickboxing so I joined them but they also had wrestling and jiu-jitsu, so I did all of them. I had my first fight about a year later and I knew it's what I wanted to do. I gave up the footy and stuck with MMA.

### You're head coach is your dad. How does that go?

We butt heads sometimes but we've found a way to make it work. He's just really savvy when it comes to techniques and game planning, and there's nobody who knows me better than my dad. He pushes me hard and knows when to pull back.

### Describe a normal training day for you?

It can vary every day but it usually starts with some sort of fitness in the morning, whether it be working on strength and conditioning or going for a run or swim. Weight training, cardio, cross fit stuff, weighted balls, power lifting... This is followed by striking on the pads, jiu-jitsu, or wrestling afterwards and then in the evening it'll be a sparring session or another discipline again.

### How often do you train?

Every day. When I feel flat I'll take the day off. A lot of fighters will either have the weekend off or a set day off but I find I'll work my way through the weekend and if I feel flat I might take the next day off.

### Is there any specific training you need to do as a UFC fighter?

You need to work all the disciplines. I work them equally. You get some guys that transition from boxing so they might work specifically on jiu-jitsu or wrestling, but I started on everything at one time so it's all pretty much on par. Wrestling and jiu-jitsu are my forte but I work on striking just as much.



### THE CELTIC KID

STATUS UPDATE

#### NAME

Jake Matthews

#### BORN

August 19, 1994 in Melbourne, Vic

#### NICKNAME

The Celtic Kid

#### HEIGHT

175cm

#### WEIGHT CLASS

Lightweight

#### ASSOCIATION

XLR8 Training Centre

#### PRO SINCE

2012

#### PRO MMA RECORD

Nine wins (two in the UFC) — four by KO, four by submission.

#### TWITTER

@JakeBJMMA



**What are the most important muscle groups in a fighter's body?**

Shoulders for wrestling, a lot of core strength for endurance, and power in the arms and legs.

**Describe the mental strength needed to become a UFC fighter.**

Just being able to push when you're tired. And you need to know when you're tired and when you're actually tired. When you're puffing a little and your arms are a bit heavy you don't realise how much more you can push.

**What goes through your mind before and during a fight?**

In the change rooms before the fight it's kind of a weird feeling. I'll be trying to hit the pads and my arms will feel heavy, everything is slow and I'll think I'm unfit. Then I walk out and hear the music playing and the crowd going off and the energy starts to pick up. Walking to the cage I take in the crowd high-five everyone, and as soon as I go up the stairs and into the octagon I'll always touch the canvas to feel it on my hands and feel comfortable. And as soon as I see my opponent and I'm staring him down it's all good. And any doubts just go.

**How do you stay focussed in the octagon?**

Once I get in there and the ref says go it's like a big black curtain has dropped down around the cage and I can't see anything outside the octagon. I can hear dad's voice and any instructions he gives me, and nothing else.

**What's it like to win a fight?**

As soon as the ref calls the fight off or has your arm raised above your head, it's the best feeling. You know all the hard work has paid off. You've been thinking

“

As soon as I see my opponent and I'm staring him down, it's all good. Any doubts just go.

”

about your opponent for the last 12 weeks and you know that he's done and you can think about the next one.

**Take us through your diet and how you manage your weight.**

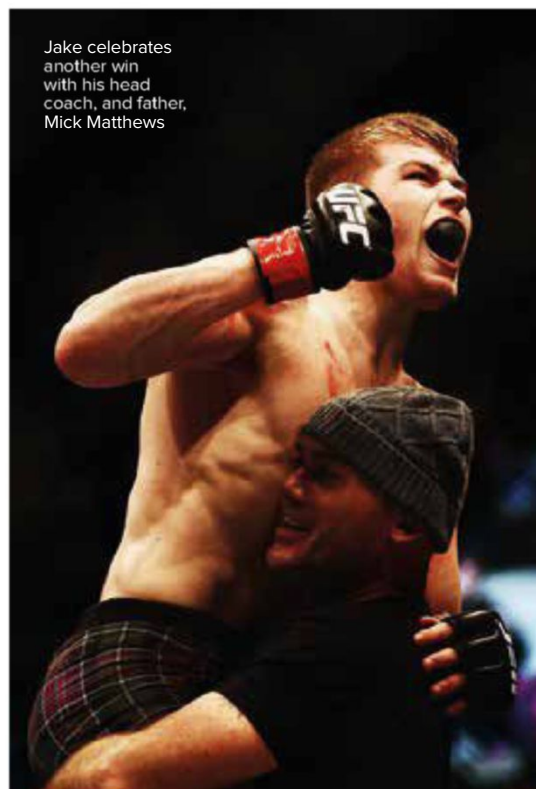
Breakfast is always oats and yoghurt or both, then after my morning session it's a protein shake I let settle then have something light to eat. After the next session I'll come home and have rice, chicken or pasta and after my final session it's whatever mum has cooked for dinner.

**How do you feel about what UFC President Dana White said about you?**

It was a pretty positive spiel. It's one thing to hear it from fans but to hear it from the head of the UFC is a pretty big deal. It just gives me the motivation to prove him right.



⬅  
**JAKE'S NEXT FIGHT IS AGAINST AMERICAN JAMES VICK ON MAY 9 AT UFC FIGHT NIGHT: MIOCIC VS HUNT IN ADELAIDE. FOR MORE INFO GO TO: AU.UFC.COM**



Jake celebrates another win with his head coach, and father, Mick Matthews





BE YOUR OWN

# BOOTLE

There was a time not long ago when you had to own a brewery to be the king of beers. Today, thanks to a new generation of spirited masters, the art of making **whisky, wine**, and, yes, a **cold beer** is far simpler. We ask some fine Americans how to join them...





# EGGER

PHOTOS: DAN WINTERS; ILLUSTRATIONS: MICHAEL HOEWELER; WORDS: JOSH M. BERNSTEIN





# BEER

## BEER IN MIND

These are just an artist's renderings. For info on real equipment and assembly, go to [northernbrewer.com](http://northernbrewer.com).







**I** started home brewing with my dad in the 1960s, before it was legal. Back then it was tough to get supplies, but my dad was a brewmaster – in fact, five generations of family members were brewmasters. Other people would throw a football in the backyard; my dad and I brewed beer. After home brewing was legalised, I started playing around with it again. I bought my grains and hops from a guy who sold supplies out of his garage. You’d call him and say, “I’m coming over in an hour. Could you open the garage?” The quality was spotty, particularly of the hops. Generally, they were the brewers’ rejects. It was challenging, but I had a passion that went back 150 years. On my kitchen stove, I brewed my great-great-great-grandfather’s recipe for Louis Koch lager. Not every batch was a success. Brewing in the winter, I ended up steaming a lot of wallpaper off the walls. I can’t say it caused my divorce, but it didn’t win me any points with my then-wife either. It was tough in the beginning. I’ve had bottles blow up – it sounds like a muffled grenade going off. But the more I brewed, the more I realised I wanted to make a living doing what I love. When I started Sam Adams, everybody except the home brewers thought I was crazy. They supported me. I wanted to give back by starting the LongShot American Homebrew Contest [Samuel Adams brews and distributes the winning entries] to show beer drinkers that the line between a professional brewer and a talented home brewer is largely invisible. I still home brew. A few months ago, I made a beer with my daughter. She got her hands on some genetically modified yeast, designed to make bread with high vitamin A content. As I always say, making beer is about as hard as making bread.



### WILL IT KILL YOU?

Even if your beer smells like Band-Aids, if it’s fermented, it’s safe to drink.

### YOU’VE BEEN WARNED

“Be fanatical about cleaning and sanitation, and be aware that those are two different things,” says **Radical Brewing author Randy Mosher**, who recommends buying brewing-appropriate chemicals to fortify your inner neat freak. Furthermore, he says, “you want to use a good beer yeast and plenty of it, especially if you’re brewing a stronger beer.”



### EQUIPMENT

19-litre pot or larger  
25-litre fermenting bucket with lid  
25-litre bottling bucket (with spigot, tubing, and bottle filler)  
Airlock and stopper  
Thermometer  
Racking cane  
Bottles  
Bottle brush  
Bottle capper and caps  
Sanitizer and cleaner

### INGREDIENTS

Grains (or concentrated malt extract)  
Hops  
Yeast  
Sugar  
Water



## JAMIL ZAINASHEFF, COAUTHOR OF BREWING CLASSIC STYLES AND FOUNDER OF CALIFORNIA’S HERETIC BREWING COMPANY

### KEEP IT SIMPLE

“Until you master brewing, leave the recipe formulation to other people,” says Zainasheff, who started with a Mr. Beer kit he received one Christmas. Select a battle-tested recipe, stouts and IPAs are most forgiving, or a kit. Before you begin, clean and sanitize your equipment and kitchen.

### MASH IT

Heat water to the appropriate temperature (usually about 70 degrees); add grains. This is called a mash. By steeping the oatmeal-like mixture for about an hour, you’re creating sugar-rich wort, aka yeast fuel.

### LET IT DRAIN

Strain excess liquid from the wort into another pot, then rinse grain with hot water to extract remaining sugars, a process called sparging. If you’re using an extract, add it to the wort now. Boil the wort, adding hops in stages to impart bitterness, flavor, and aroma. Fun fact: Hops are cousins to cannabis. And no, smoking them won’t get you stoned.

### CHILL, MAN

Cool the wort in an ice bath to the proper fermentation temperature (7 to 15 degrees for lagers, 18 to 22 degrees for ales). Transfer it to the fermentation vessel. Add the yeast, seal the container, and shake. Relocate the vessel to your favorite cool spot – a basement or cupboard.

### WAIT OF THE WORLD

As your beer ferments over the next few weeks, drink plenty of brews. Clean and sanitise the bottles. Transfer your beer and a little sugar-water mixture to your bottling bucket. The yeast will referment in the bottle, creating natural carbonation. Siphon beer into the bottle and cap it. Wait a few weeks for carbonation to build, then invite friends over. Ignore what they say. “They’ll tell you that the beer tastes great or that it tastes terrible,” Zainasheff says. And there’s not much help in that.





THE BREWER

CARLO MONDAVI

ENTREPRENEUR GRANDSON OF ROBERT MONDAVI

**F**rom a young age, I knew I wanted to make wine. I grew up in our Napa Valley vineyard with my brother and sisters, and during harvest the workers' singing would wake me up. I'd jump out there and pick grapes with them. My father, Tim, made the wines, while my grandfather, Robert, promoted them. At 16, I started working in the wine cellar, but my family didn't make it easy to join the business. To understand the challenge of running a successful company, we had to first get an M.B.A. and start our own. When I was 22, I was in the cellar, shoveling pomace [the leftover skins, seeds, and pulp from crushed grapes], when I noticed its incredible aroma. What if I could make something with it? This led me to start up a skin-care company, Davi, in 2003. The next year, a perfect storm hit. We never intended to sell Robert Mondavi Winery, but there was, for lack of a better explanation, a hostile takeover. It turned out to be the best thing that could've happened. My family took everything from the sale and invested it in Continuum Estate, bringing us back to our craft of making fine wine. While we have focused on Continuum, my brother, Dante, and I have wanted to make our own wine ever since our grandfather took us to Europe. He showed us the vineyards that inspired him to start his winery, and I fell in love with Burgundy. This lit a fire in my belly to make the absolute best pinot noir. Last year, Dante and I started Raen. We released our first bottles this past summer. From when I wake up to when I go to bed, I think about wine. We think of it not as a business, but as an art form, and we're trying to accomplish art at the highest level.

#### NEED TO KNOW

##### WILL IT KILL YOU?

Nope. "Spoiled wine won't hurt you," says *True Brews* author Emma Christensen. "The alcohol kills anything truly harmful, but it's definitely not pleasant to drink."

##### YOU'VE BEEN WARNED

You can't make good wine with bad ingredients. "Work with ripe, in-season fruit or good-quality fruit juice," says Christensen. And remember, grapes aren't the be-all and end-all. "Wines made from any fruit are foolproof," she says. "Mix fruit, water, sugar, and yeast, let it sit for a while, strain, bottle, wait a little longer, and presto, you have wine."

#### WHAT TO BUY OR RENT

##### EQUIPMENT

Destemmer  
press  
Large plastic  
trash can  
Wine-stirring paddle  
Racking cane  
and hose  
Glass carboy  
or wood barrel  
Bottles  
Corks

##### INGREDIENTS

Grapes (or other  
fresh fruit)  
Campden tablets  
Yeast nutrients  
Yeast

#### HOW TO MAKE WINE

**RYAN LEE SHARP,**  
OWNER AND  
WINEMAKER AT  
PORTLAND, OREGON'S  
ENSO WINERY

##### HAVE A PLAN

Before starting, says the one-time garage winemaker, decide where you'll acquire grapes (hint: Call a winery or winemaking shops) and where you'll store the juice. "If you're making wine at home, I wouldn't do anything less than a full barrel," Sharp says. That's about 300 bottles of wine, or roughly \$2,500 worth of grapes.

##### CRUSH IT

To loose the juice, rent a destemmer and a press from a wine shop. "There's no need to invest in something you'll use only once or twice a year," Sharp says. Pro tip: Some vineyards will crush the grapes for you. For a shortcut, buy concentrated grape juice.

##### CO<sub>2</sub> YOU LATER

Pour the juice into your sanitised bin, and toss in Campden tablets to kill bacteria and unwanted fungi. Wait 24 hours, then add nutrients and yeast. If the microbes are happy and hungry, they'll make the juice foam like Cujo. This fermentation should last seven to 10 days. Stir the juice

daily to rouse sluggish yeast. "Once the bubbles have stopped, you'll have fermented wine," Sharp says. Dump the contents into the press and apply pressure. Do not press too hard, or you'll get harsh seed tannins. Taste as you press. When the wine starts to get astringent, stop.

##### AGE IT

Transfer wine to a glass carboy or an oak barrel. If you're using a barrel, fill it with water for three days prior to usage; the wood will swell with water, not wine. "I didn't do that for my first batch, and the wine level dropped around four inches," Sharp laments. Let it ferment again. You may want to siphon off the pulpy yeast clumps every few months with a large, netted funnel. Your wine should smell fresh and fruity. Like a teenager, though, it'll have growing pains. It may taste great one month and dreadful the next, says Sharp. But "most things that go wrong in the barrel are fixable by time." In a few months, the wine should be ready for bottling.



# WINE

## THE BIG SQUEEZE

No need to spring for a wine press; local wine shops often rent them out. Better yet, hire a vineyard to crush your grapes.

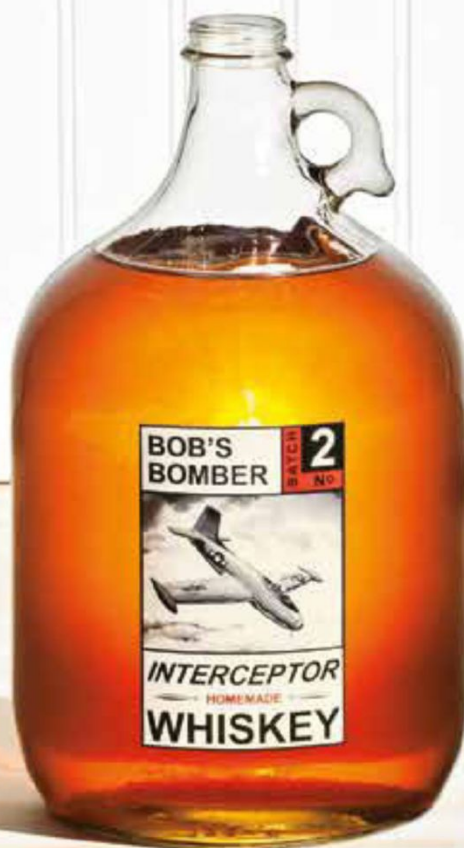




#### **DRIP TIP**

Just for the record: Whisky doesn't emerge from a still looking like this. It needs to age in a barrel to get that golden hue.

# SPIRITS







**A**bout eight years ago, my dad, brother Andy, and I were driving to a butcher in Greenbrier, Tennessee. We stopped for petrol, and I saw a historical marker for the defunct Green Brier Distillery, which Charles Nelson had owned. I thought, That's my name! Before the Civil War, I discovered, my great-great-grandfather had come to Nashville and later bought a whisky distillery. It was known as Old Number 5, because it was the country's fifth registered distillery. Jack Daniel's is number 514. When we got to the butcher, we asked him about Green Brier. "Look across the street," he said. A metal-barrel warehouse still stood, with a nearby spring. We drank the coolest, purest springwater you've ever tasted. Then we visited the historical society, which had two unopened bottles of Nelson's Green Brier Tennessee Whiskey. Every hair on my body stood up. My brother and I looked at each other and said, "This is what we're here to do." Our plan was to raise money, build a distillery, and start barrel-aging whisky. We'd sell it when it was ready. That was a tough pitch for investors, especially coming from guys barely old enough to drink. Instead, my family and I put up everything we owned to guarantee a loan, then we worked with a contract distillery to create Belle Meade bourbon. The new idea was to build a brand and a distribution network, then attract capital. It worked. This year, we're bottling Belle Meade at our new distillery, and we'll start distilling Green Brier Tennessee Whiskey according to my great-great-grandfather's recipe. We didn't have anything when we started out – just an idea, a dream, and a vision. We want to be in this business for the rest of our lives.

#### NEED TO KNOW

#### WILL IT KILL YOU?

Possibly. Blindness? Ditto. Eyeball your unaged 'shine. It should be clear. Smell nail-polish remover? That means methanol. Might be time for plan B: some store-bought booze.

#### YOU'VE BEEN WARNED

Stills can be dangerous: You're essentially putting a flame beneath a container full of flammable stuff. "The number one rule," says Doug Nutter, cofounder of Straitsville Special Moonshine Distillery, "is make sure you have good equipment and maintain it."

#### WHAT TO BUY OR RENT

##### EQUIPMENT

19-litre (or larger) pot  
25-litre fermenting bucket with lid  
Airlock  
Hydrometer  
Thermometer  
Still, boiler, and condenser

##### INGREDIENTS

Fermentables (sugar, grains, or malt extract)  
Yeast  
Water

#### HOW TO MAKE SPIRITS

**DAREK BELL, AUTHOR OF ALT WHISKEYS AND OWNER OF NASHVILLE'S CORSAIR ARTISAN DISTILLERY**

#### HIT THE SMACK

The night before brewing, smack the yeast pack and let it incubate, says Bell, a former home brewer who stumbled into distilling after an aborted career making biodiesel. Smart move.

#### TURN UP

##### THE HEAT

Boil 9.5 litres of distilled water, remove from heat, and add fermentables. Bell suggests a simple whisky recipe: 1.5 kilos of liquid amber malt extract and 3 kilos of liquid rye malt extract.) Reboil the brew for 10 to 20 minutes. Congrats! You're the proud parent of sugary wort. Now cool it in an ice bath.

#### FERMENT IT

After sanitising your fermenting bucket, accessories, yeast packet, and scissors, add about 7.5 litres of cold water, followed by the wort, minus any sludge that has collected at the bottom. You'll want about 19 litres in total. Aerate the wort by sealing the bucket and rocking it back and forth for a few minutes. When the temperature nose-dives to 25 degrees, stir in the yeast, add a teaspoon of sugar

to the fermentation lock, reseal the bucket, and let the fungi gorge. In three to five days, you'll have wash, aka distiller's beer.

#### DISTILL IT

Dump the wash minus the sludge into the boiler, pour cold water into the condenser, and let the still rip. As the hooch nears a boil, vapors pass through the condenser and drip into a vessel. Stop when a swampy smell emerges – this will take hours. Discard remaining liquid.

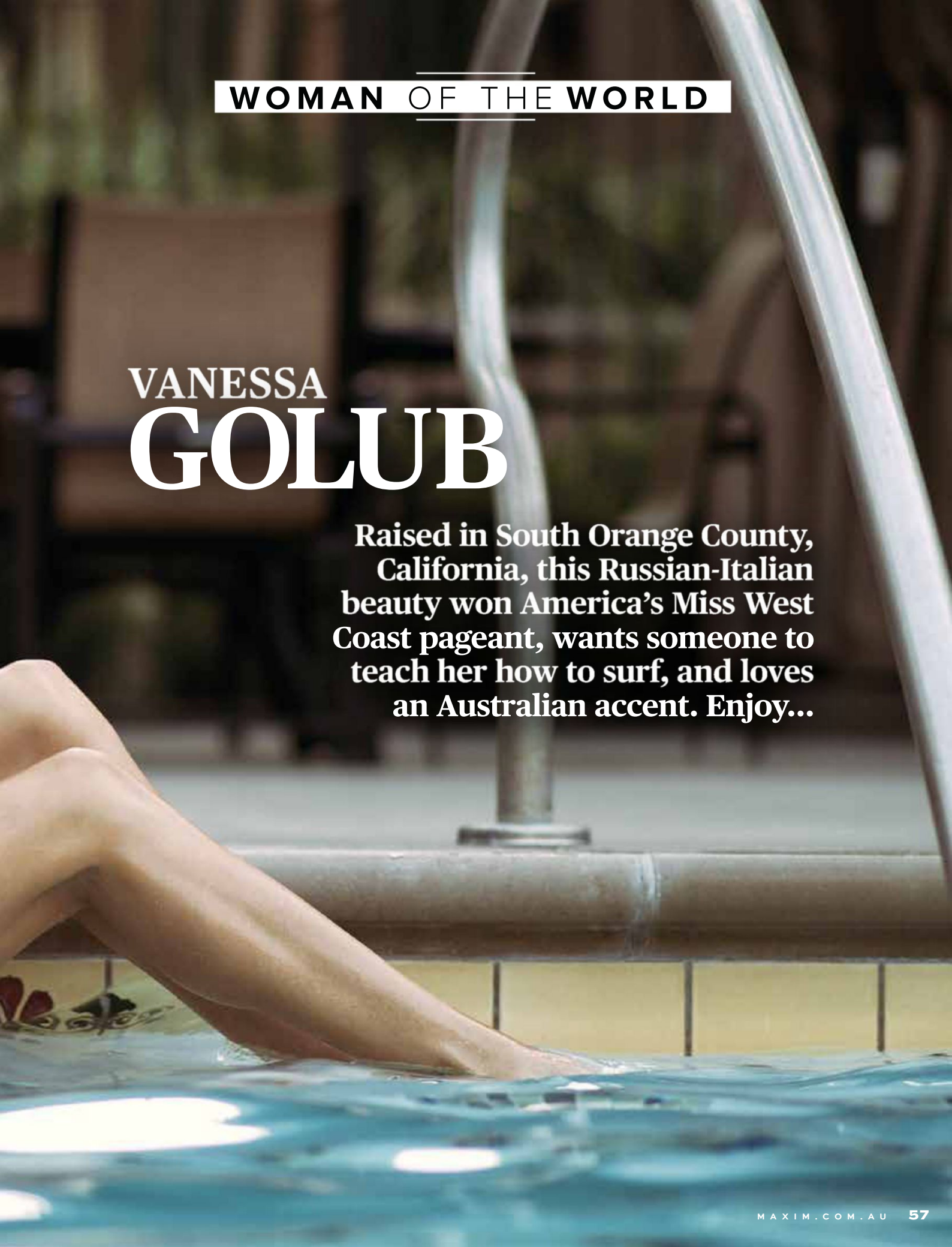
#### THE NOSE KNOWS

Pour the distillate into the still for a second run. The top quarter, the "heads," will smell like nail-polish remover. That's nature saying, Do not drink. Discard it. Once the noxious aroma fades, you've hit the hearts. Save every drop. When the distillate smells like a swamp, you've reached the tails. Discard that, too. The hearts can be barrel-aged, but who are we kidding? You deserve a drink. Test the alcohol level with a hydrometer. Add water to reach 80 to 100 proof.







A photograph of a woman's legs sticking out of a swimming pool. In the background, a diving board is visible, and the pool's edge has a decorative tile pattern. The overall scene is outdoors with a blurred background of trees and a building.

**WOMAN OF THE WORLD**

**VANESSA  
GOLUB**

**Raised in South Orange County, California, this Russian-Italian beauty won America's Miss West Coast pageant, wants someone to teach her how to surf, and loves an Australian accent. Enjoy...**



**“THE FIRST  
THING I  
THINK ABOUT  
WHEN I HEAR  
THE WORD  
AUSTRALIA IS  
KANGAROOS...  
AND LOTS OF  
HOT GIRLS!”**





**Hey, Vanessa, what's your background?**

I am half Russian, half Italian. I love the home cooked Italian meals my family makes. My Russian background comes from my mum's side of the family. My last name actually means pigeon in Russian. Maybe I come from a long line of messenger pigeon handling? Who knows!

**Being our Woman Of The World this month, where's your favourite place to travel?**  
Thailand for its beaches.

**Do you know how to surf?**  
I grew up 10 minutes from the beach and I am ashamed to say I've never even tried surfing! Someone teach me!

**Have you ever been to Australia?**

No but I would LOVE to. If I did go the first thing I'd do is start speaking with an Australian accent because I think it's so sexy!

**What's the first thing you think about when you hear the word Australia?**  
Kangaroos, but only because I'm obsessed with animals. The second thing is lots of hot girls!

**Tell us something weird about yourself.**  
I love reading about different species of insects.

**Right then. What would be the best way for one of our readers to score a date with you?**

I'm a sucker for a man with a quick wit who can make me laugh. I find a good sense of humour, and someone who doesn't feel the need to show off, sexy in a man.

**If we took you on a date, where would you like to go?**  
A safari date!

**Do you kiss on the first date?**  
If the chemistry is undeniable, yes, why not?

**Cool! We're ordering you pizza, what do you want on it?**  
Veggies of all sorts.

**Would you consider yourself high maintenance?**  
Do I like the finer things in life? Yes, but I'm always down for an

adventure where I might get dirty.

**What is a typical Sunday afternoon like for you?**  
Laying low and spending quality time with my dog.

**If you could spend a day with any person in the world who would it be?**  
Ellen DeGeneres. She's kind, smart, and hilarious.

**What's the most romantic gift you've been given?**  
A love letter.

**Finally, what's the most adventurous thing you've ever done?**  
Whitewater rafting. It's more frightening than it looks. ■



**"I'M A SUCKER FOR  
A MAN WITH A  
QUICK WIT  
WHO CAN  
MAKE ME  
LAUGH."**







## Status Update

**HOMETOWN:**

Laguna Niguel,  
California, USA

**BIRTHDAY:**

May 8

**HOBBIES:**

"I love painting,  
dancing, fitness,  
yoga, cooking,  
and doing hair  
and make-up  
on my friends."

**FAVOURITE CAR:**

"A Mercedes  
S65 AMG for the  
weekdays and  
the Saleen S7 on  
weekends. But I'm  
not too picky!"

**FAVOURITE****AUTHOR:**

Nicholas Sparks

**FAVOURITE****SPORT:**

"I love basketball!"

**INTERVIEW:** SANTI PINTADO;  
**PHOTOS:** DREAMSTATE PHOTOS;  
**SWIMWEAR:** KEVA BY KEVA J;  
**BOOKING:** MUSE PUBLISHING



On tonight's  
menu: flop sweat!





# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ *The* ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ NEW GUY



Can a *MAXIM* douche who's never done a lick of real work survive a day cooking, bartending, and waiting tables at Guy Fieri's restaurant in the heart of Times Square, New York? Don't bet your Donkey Sauce...

||||| WORDS: PATRICK CARONE ★ PHOTOS: BEN RITTER |||||

**G**uy Fieri screams at me as I attempt to flatten a wad of meat on a sizzling hot grill. "Use some of that forearm strength!" I'm sweating balls in a 100-plus-degree kitchen during the lunch rush at Guy's American Kitchen & Bar. I came to learn what it takes to work the grill, man the bar, and wait the tables, and judging by how things are going so far, it's probably for the best that my real job primarily consists of sitting at a computer staring at women all day. The spatula I'm using drops to the floor as I wipe away the sweat that's stinging my eyeballs. Today is not going to be easy.

Guy's American Kitchen & Bar opened over a year ago in Times Square. Like Guy Fieri's outsize, spiky-haired personality, it's gigantic. The restaurant measures 16,000 square feet and can accommodate 520 patrons at once. Dishes like Guy-talian Nachos and General Tso's Pork Shank are served in rooms decorated with posters of vintage Chevys, electric guitars, and other symbols of American awesomeness. Painted in giant letters over the check-in area is Guy's philosophy on life: love, peace & taco grease.

Despite an over-the-top nasty review in *The New York Times* that went viral (Guy told the *Today* show he thinks the reviewer was just trying to make a name for himself), the place is packed on this Tuesday afternoon. It's the seventh restaurant owned by the California-bred celebrity chef and his first on the East Coast. Though known mostly for stuffing his face with other people's grub on his US Food Network smash hit *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*, Guy has been cooking since he was a kid and working in restaurants since he was a teenager. "If everyone knew what it's like to work in a restaurant," he tells me, "they wouldn't be such asses about what goes on out front." After two minutes in the hot-as-the-devil's-grundle sauté station, I understand exactly what he means.

## *Gentlemen, Start Your Ovens*

It's 10am, and executive chef Ken Hoerle – a Bruce Willis look-alike, complete with shaved head and no-nonsense demeanor – is giving me a tour of the two kitchens: prep and main. As we walk around the subterranean prep kitchen, the "heart of the restaurant," according to Ken, a dozen extremely

focused men cut up veggies, boil pork shanks, pound slabs of beef, and season whole chickens. As the chef points out the dairy fridge, the sauce cooler, the dish-washing room, and the pastry-prep area, I feel like Danny in *The Shining* getting a tour of the Overlook Hotel kitchen. ("How would you like some ice cream, Doc?")

Absolutely nothing goes to waste, I'm told. The scraps from the hanger steak are used to make the jus for the Big Dipper sandwich; the rotisserie chickens get chopped up for the Chinatown Chicken Crunch salad. "In any kitchen," Ken explains, "you want everything to be utilised. It's part of making money."

If efficient use of ingredients is necessary in a kitchen, efficient use of time is even more so. Designed to minimise the passing of foodstuffs – thereby cutting down on chatter between staff – the kitchen's main thoroughfare consists of the salad station, the griddle station, the fry station, the ovens around the corner, and, finally, the sauté station. "This is the hottest place in the kitchen," Ken says, somewhat unnecessarily. "We put our more skilled guys in this area." I'm ushered away.

Back around the corner – where it's only slightly less unbearably hot – Ken teaches me how to make two items: the Sashimi Tacos and the Big Bite Burger. The first dish requires a delicate touch as I place raw tuna and mango salsa into four quick-to-crack shells (several shattered on my watch). I drizzle two different sauces over the tacos, then top the whole thing off with sliced scallions. Ken tells me to take a bite, and they taste just as good as they look. Score!

Next is the burger, which isn't quite so easy. Besides the multitude of ingredients (raw onions, pickles, lettuce, tomatoes, melted cheese, toasted bun, onion ring, and Donkey Sauce), the fact that the dish actually has to be, you know, cooked, adds a whole new element. I pay close attention to Ken, take careful notes, and think I'm ready to give it a shot when – like a pierced and goateed Tasmanian devil – Guy bursts into the kitchen. Oh, crap.

"Well, let's see you make a burger," he says, and I instantly forget every step involved. Not only do I have trouble pressing on the patty correctly, but I also totally blank on the specific way to add each ingredient. "No, it's Donkey Sauce first, then the pickles!" "That's way too many onions!" "That's not enough



Golden  
shower,  
Fieri style



lettuce!" Now I'm really starting to sweat, due to my nerves as well as the extreme heat. Remembering that Ken put a metal bowl over the burgers and steamed them for a few seconds (it adds to the juiciness), I grab a pan full of water and toss it at the sizzling burger. "You're not putting out a fire, man. Watch out!"

When the steam disappears and the burger is done, Guy is ready to grade me on my kitchen performance. "Not great," he says. "Your ideas are right, but you're slow. If you got another 24 hours under your belt working the burger station, that maybe would get you through the flattop. But then you'd have six other stations to master. You get a B-minus for the kitchen." I look around at the line cooks who work ungodly hours in this crazy,

hot, intense place day and night and realise I'll never look at my plate of food at a restaurant the same way again.

## Passing the Bar

The cocktails at Guy's American are as important as the food. Potent, multicolored drinks like the Rockin' Red Mojito and the Blackberry Brandy Alexander are just a couple of the forms of hooch that aim to make your experience at Guy's a memorable – or perhaps forgettable – one. Lording over the bar, which is prominently placed in the centre dining room, is the restaurant's beverage director, a jovial bro named Carey Martin. A clear fan of all things drinkable, his job is to ensure the booze flows freely at all times. But right now his job is to teach someone who doesn't know what goes into a gin and tonic how to pour like a pro.

"You gotta remember, the drinks are strong at Guy's," Carey tells me as he counts "one one-thousand, two one-thousand, three one-thousand" while pouring tequila into a cocktail shaker. That's my first lesson: Each "one thousand" translates to about half an ounce of booze. This is vital information, since good cocktails are all about correct proportions. He's showing me how to make a Caliente Margarita – a spicy combo of jalapeño-infused tequila, triple sec, cilantro, lime juice, jalapeños, and agave nectar – and I jump right into it. I'm muddling! I'm shaking! I'm moving like Tom Cruise in *Cocktail*! Carey looks impressed, but he's not convinced until he takes a sip. "This is the most important thing I want you to take away: Sample the finished drink." He sticks in a straw – covering the top with his thumb – takes a slurp, and gives me an approving nod. Unfortunately, Carey isn't the one grading me.

Of course, when it comes time to make a Caliente Margarita for Guy, I fill the cocktail shaker with mint instead of cilantro. "When in doubt, smell it out," he reprimands. Count on Guy Fieri to have a catchy rhyme for any given situation. Without missing a beat, I dump out the shaker, throw in some more ice, and add



## GUY GLOSSARY

A sampling of the restaurant lingo we picked up at work

### DENUDING CHICKEN

The time-consuming (and kind of gross) job of removing tendons from chicken breasts, necessary for making Guy's "Awesome" Pretzel Chicken Tenders.

### COVERS

Patrons of the restaurant. On a busy day, Guy's American can go through as many as 3,000 covers.

### BIAS

The technique of cutting vegetables at an angle. This makes a thinner cut easier, and they look better on the plate. The scallions that garnish the Sashimi Tacos are cut on a bias.

### THE PASS

The area in the kitchen where just-prepared food is placed by line cooks before it's picked up by runners.

### ROLL-UP DUTY

The unfun task of shining the silverware and rolling it up in napkins. Each server at Guy's American is required to do 150 roll-ups per shift.

### WINGETTES AND DRUMETTES

The two parts of a chicken wing. You get half of each type in Guy's Ain't No Thing Butta Chicken Wings.





It's liquid lunch o'clock somewhere!

Hot porkin' action

"No, sir, I will not put your tip in your G-string."



Patrick tries to keep his drool in check



Brushing up on his burger-making skills



Guy demonstrates proper burger-eating technique



the cilantro. As I pour in the tequila, Guy tells me to hold it for an extra "me one-thousand," because he wants this puppy to be strong. He quizzes me with each step. "What's triple sec?" "What's agave?" "What happens if you shake it too long?" Shocking everyone involved, I answer everything correctly (or close enough.) But this isn't that kind of test; Guy needs to taste what I have made. He takes two big sips and looks me right in the eye. "Not bad. Good guest service, nice style, and good recipe adherence. In your bartending course, you receive... an A!" Drinking away half my life has finally paid off!

## Lip Service

If there's one thing that anyone who has never waited tables (like me) can't stand, it's listening to people yap about that one month in college that they worked at the local diner. Well, this was my chance to shut them up. I meet Raquel, an aspiring actress and server who is willing to risk her hard-earned tips by letting me help out with one of her tables. She gives me a few pointers right off the bat: "Be charismatic. Ask them where they're from — this is Times Square, so everyone is a tourist. Only offer suggestions if they ask." I take it all in.

We approach a young couple visiting from Canada, and I watch Raquel do her thing. She's a pro, so I feel comfortable piping in and suggesting the California Egg Rolls when they ask what we like. As we walk away, I ask Raquel if she can tell what type of tip this couple is going to leave. "You never know. Sometimes people you've been laughing with the whole time leave almost nothing. Other times a super-rude table will leave you more than you can ever imagine." Luckily for Raquel, these friendly Canucks leave an extra-friendly 25 percent. Oh, Canada, indeed. On to my final test...

Serving Guy Fieri at a restaurant named Guy's American Kitchen & Bar is as intimidating as it sounds. He sits twiddling his thumbs, annoyed that no one has greeted him yet. I rush over and hand him a food and drink menu, and he immediately

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Make Your Own ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ DONKEY SAUCE

Guy's most famous condiment got its name, he explains, because, "You'd have to be an ass not to like it." Here's what you need to make your own batch

- 1/4 cup minced roasted garlic
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 4 dashes Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. American mustard
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 4 pinches ground black pepper

Mix everything together until smooth, then put it on top of whatever you want to be Donkey-fied. (They use it on the burgers at Guy's American.)

starts asking me about various items. Not surprisingly, he asks about the restaurant's most complicated dish: "How is the General Tso's Pork Shank made, exactly?" I launch right into it: "First, we make sure that the pork is perfectly cooked. It boils in a stock for a few hours, then we put it in the oven, deep-fry it, and bathe it in our General Tso's glaze. It's juicy, tangy, and fall-off-the-bone tender." It's a mouthful, but I think I nail it.

When the food arrives, Guy invites me to sit and join him. As we scarf down half the menu (I'm pretty sure our forks touch in a bowl of fettuccine), he gives me the rundown: "Your approach to the table was very nice, and you had great recommendations. But it was your enthusiasm about the pork shank that sold it. Even if I were vegetarian, I would have tried it." I smile as I stuff a burger into my mouth. "You get an A in service," he says.

I finish the day with two A's and a B-minus — higher than a 3.0 GPA, which is better than I ever got in college. As Guy and I finish our meal, I thank him for giving me the opportunity to work at his restaurant. "My pleasure," he says. "By the way, wanna know how I came up with the Sashimi Tacos? I was drinking tequila at 9am with Sammy Hagar, and..." Sorry, folks, that's a whole other story. ■



# Rated

# Film





# Taking Command

After years and years and years of development, George Miller's *Mad Max: Fury Road* finally hits the big screen on May 14. We chat to two of its stars. First up, the eternally impeccable **CHARLIZE THERON** who plays bad-ass commander Imperator Furiosa

## Tell us about your character, Charlize.

I play Furiosa. I spent a lot of time talking with George [Miller, director] about where she came from and how she ended up in this world because what's great about this movie is that you kind of feel like you're picking up in the middle of a very unexplained world. We know what this kind of world is but it's not a prequel or a sequel it's just kind of a homage. We don't know where these characters are really coming from, even Max.

## And your character has a shaved head.

I love the idea of a woman with a shaved head who looks like one of the war boys and kidnaps these five beautiful, innocent girls, and looks like she's going to take them over the hill and murder them. It was something very intriguing for me. There was this instant connection, I felt this had to be a great story of revenge or some very embedded pain. We never really dived too much into it in this film, I think George is trying to save some of that stuff to peel back later. In this film we're just trying to tie these very complex characters into a three-day war.

“It was fantastic to see these ladies in their sixties and seventies with sawn-off shotguns and braids in their hair in the desert.”

## Some of the action scenes look real and dangerous rather than being shot in front of green screens on a sound stage.

It was almost too practical. Every day the whole situation was so unpredictable for me. But every day you kind of showed up and you really didn't have a clear understanding of it. It felt like the whole movie was one big scene. Every day I just showed up and I could be falling out of the truck or could be stabbed or I could be in a fight scene, I don't know what. That was sometimes very overwhelming.

## It seems female characters play a pretty significant part in this film.

It really covers the gamut between a 16-year-old girl and an 82-year-old woman and one becoming the other in this very complex, hard world. Selfishly I feel like us women had the great pleasure of really being completely, supremely complex. It was fantastic to see these ladies in their sixties and seventies with sawn-off shotguns and braids in their hair in the desert.

## Did you do any special driving training?

We never did speedy stuff. We're only driving like 30mph in those rigs. It's just really loud, it's like driving a big train. You feel every bump. You can't drive fast in those. They're not built for it, they're just like a war machine made for a fight.

## What kind of movie projects attract you at this stage of your career?

You're just always looking for the real. Simple as that. You read something and it either feels real or it doesn't. The more you explore, the more you want to go deeper into certain things, less into others.

## There's always a movie like *Mad Max* you want to watch when you're a kid but you're not allowed. What was yours?

The movie at that time was *Basic Instinct*. No, oh God, I'm not that young! It was *Fatal Attraction*. The bunny really screwed me up. That, and the elevator sex.

**INTERVIEW:** DREW TURNEY;  
**PHOTO:** MARY ELLEN MATTHEWS;  
**PRODUCERS:** CAT BURKLEY FARBER  
(PORTFOLIO ONE); TYLER DUURING  
(PORTFOLIO ONE); **SET DESIGNER:**  
RAE SCARTON; **HAIR:** ENZO ANGILERI;  
**MAKE-UP:** PATI DUBROFF; **STYLIST:**  
ROB + MARIEL; **BLUE VELVET BLAZER:**  
EMILIO PUCCI; **EARRINGS:** H. STERN





# Film

## Madder Than Max

Best known for his role as Hank McCoy in the X-Men movies, English actor **Nicholas Hoult** tries something different this month – playing psychopath Nux in *Mad Max: Fury Road*

**A lot of actors say they're only happy when they're working. What do you say?**

If you're on a film set the whole time then it's such a little bubble and people treat you so strangely. If you always did that and then try to be a normal person you'd just fail epically. You need to step away and see the world. At the end of last year I did a few things back to back and I was having a good time so I was enjoying it. But I stepped back a little bit because I was done. I stopped for a while and then we had to do some reshoots last week and I was excited about doing that again. I realised I was still interested.

**What was the hardest experience while filming this movie?**

I could never hear anything. You'd see a camera and you'd go, "I better act because I'm sure this is me, I'm meant to be doing something". So that was weird. And then occasionally they'd be like, "We're going to crash this into that and that's going to blow up."

**Being a road movie, what was it like working with all the fast vehicles.**

It's more about how the camera moves that makes them seem fast. In the middle of the desert there's no reference points like trees or anything whipping past to show how fast you're going. So as long as you're kicking up enough dust you're fine.

“Occasionally they'd be like, 'We're going to crash this into that and that's going to blow up'.”

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RAE SCARTON; **HAIR:** ENZO ANGILERI;  
**MAKE-UP:** PATI DUBROFF; **STYLIST:** WENDI  
+ NICOLE; **GROOMER:** GEORGIE EISELL;  
**SUIT:** DOLCE; **SHIRT:** JOHN VARVATOS;  
**SHOES:** JIMMY CHOO; **TIE:** ARMANI



# Rated Music

THE WOMBATS  
NEW ALBUM  
GLITTERBUG  
IS OUT NOW



## Hey, True Brew

Iconic Swedish skate-punk band **MILLENCOLIN** are back with their eighth studio album, *True Brew*, this month and we got frontman Nikola Šarčević to take us through it, track-by-track

**01. "Egocentric Man":** Musically, it's very much inspired by Bad Religion. Just like the title. They started their album *Against the Grain* with *Modern Man* so it seemed natural and cool to have *Egocentric Man* as the first track of *True Brew*. It's about nationalism.

**02. "Chameleon":** One of not so many power pop songs of the album. The song was actually meant to be a one of my solo songs when it was first written, but then we dressed it up into a punk rock song.

**03. "Autopilot Mode":** This song is a like a hybrid between skate punk and almost rap metal, with the fast punky verse and the heavier chorus. It's definitely something different and a kind of song we haven't done before. I wrote the song but Mathias did a great job producing it, coming up with the rhythm change and drum patterns, etc.

**04. "Bring Me Home":** This is one of two songs that Mathias wrote by himself completely, music and lyrics. It will be our first real single for radio. Probably the poppiest song off the album.

**05. "Sense & Sensibility":** The first song we let people hear off the album. A kind of angry song that has an attitude showing the direction of the new album. The lyrics are talking about the growing nationalism and different ways to relate to this phenomenon.

**06. "True Brew":** The title track. It has a classic Millecolin and punk rock topic: the struggle of being true to yourself and being in control of who you are and where you want to go and make of life, and not making decisions based on what the greater society wants you to be and do. The title is also a wink to Madonna's *True Blue* and also to the fact that we love beer and that I'm actually brewing my own beer.

"IT'S VERY MUCH  
INSPIRED BY BAD  
RELIGION. JUST  
LIKE THE TITLE."

**07. "Perfection Is Boring":** A song about appreciating what you already have in life and saying to yourself that you are OK the way you are and not always aiming too hard for the unreachable.

**08. "Wall Of Doubt":** First piano intro ever in the bands history, I think. References to some of my favorite cartoons in the lyrics. One of my better singing performances of the album, if I could rate myself.

**09. "Something I Would Die For":** The only song on the album where Mathias and I wrote the song on the spot together in the same room. He had the guitar

riff and the verse and I came up with the chorus. It stands out a bit on the album being a kind of melancholy emotional power pop song not too far away from a band like Samiam, which we like a lot.

**10. "Silent Suicide":** Shortest song ever in Millencolin history, if you don't count the Ace Frehley song on *Life On A Plate*. Nice angry attitude.

**11. "Man Of 1000 Tics":** A big wink to Gene Simmons and his solo song *Man Of 1000 Faces*, which is an album I like a lot. Maybe the only song on the album that has a chunk of humour in the lyrics.

**12. "Mr. Fake Believe":** Also a wink and homage to the same person, Gene Simmons, and his solo song off the same solo album, *Mr. Make Believe* which is an amazing song where Gene really shows his strong the Beatles influences and his talents as a singer and songwriter. Ironically (with Gene being a sober guy) this Millenocolin song is about alcohol.

**13. "Believe In John":** Speaking of the Beatles, this is a tribute and honour to one of our big influences, John Lennon. Just like *All You Need Is Love* was the last song off *The Magical Mystery Tour*, this one is ending our album. This song was about to go on to my solo album *Nikola & Fattiglapparna* in 2010 but somehow we didn't get it right and it got rejected.





Rated **TV**

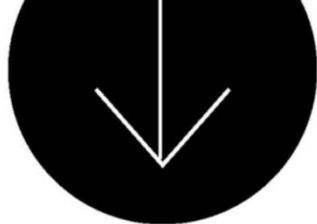
# *wife* *material*

THE REAL HOUSEWIVES  
STAR **JOANNA KRUPA**  
MAY HAVE LEFT MIAMI,  
BUT SHE'S STILL  
BRINGING THE HEAT

(this page)  
Coat, **Max Mara**.  
Lingerie, **Kiki de  
Montparnasse**.  
Necklace, **Zoë Chicco**.

(opposite page)  
Lingerie, **Carine  
Gilson**. Stockings,  
**Wolford**. Shoes,  
**Christian Louboutin**.  
Necklace, **Zoë Chicco**.  
Ring, **Blanca Monrós  
Gómez**. Bracelet,  
**Jennifer Fisher**.





You've made your mark as a model and actress, but you might be best known as the biggest star of *The Real Housewives of Miami* for the past two years. So why did you decide not to do another season?

It was getting to where I didn't have any friends on the show, and I felt like some of the girls thought, "Oh, my God, this is my five minutes of fame – I need to bring the drama. I need to be a vicious human being so the spotlight will be on me." I joined the show being this happy person with a career, which made me a bit of a target.

You had a nasty, well-publicised feud last year with *Housewives of Beverly Hills* star Brandi Glanville. Did she actually accuse you of having, um, bad personal hygiene?

It got out of hand, and there was just way too much below-the-belt stuff, literally. With Brandi, I got sucker punched. I'd never met her before I was on the show, but we'd send each other compliments on Twitter, so I thought we were cool. And when we finally did meet, she was totally a cold bitch toward me. Then all of that drama started, and I don't think she was expecting me to fight back [laughs].

Did you like watching any part of the show?

It was tough! When you film, you're living that bad moment, but you get over it, make peace, and move on. But then, when the show airs, we'd have to comment about it on our blog, what we were thinking in that particular crappy moment. So some of the girls would get offended and be like, "Oh, my God, I thought you were over it!" It was an endless circle – I'd be living those situations three times because of that.

Your husband [Miami club owner Romain Zago] isn't



exactly the pencil-thin type. Are you attracted to brawny guys? I think guys need to take care of themselves. But when they're really bulky and think about nothing but working out? Total turnoff! My husband used to be really skinny when he was a model and had to fit high-fashion measurements. Now he works out, but he's not obsessed. I respect that.

Before marriage, did you date any big celebs? Or, better yet, turn one down? Actually, I did [laughs]. I definitely turned down a pretty huge one. I don't want to say who, because he's married and it's just going to turn into an enormous drama. But, yeah, his manager called my manager and asked if I'd go to dinner with him. I was like, "Ooh, totally not my type." Then, a couple of years later, he called again and

I said, "No, no, no." I shut him down completely.

Romain once claimed that you wanted a "sexual clause" in your marriage prenup. Was that a joke?

Well, it was a joke, but it was very close to reality. We've always had an issue with that subject, because I've been the more sexual one in the relationship. So I kind of joked to him, like, "If we're going to get married, then I'm putting that clause in so I can get it on a regular basis."

Any advice for other couples wrestling with the same kind of problem?

If a girl wants more sex from her man, and she sees that the guy is having a lot of stress, then plan a romantic getaway so he can really unwind and relax for a weekend. Spur-of-

the-moment things are best. And dressing up or role-playing definitely can make things way more interesting and exciting.

Speaking of role-play, what is your dream movie role? Being a Bond girl! That's my goal. I've actually been dreaming about that ever since I got into this business.

You've been criticised for flaunting too much flesh in public. What do you have to say to your critics? If my man wants me to walk around being supersexy all the time, why not? As long as it's not trashy, or hurting somebody, or disrespecting anyone, then why not? I, for one, appreciate beautiful women. When I see them walking down the street, I want to give them a high five. ■



Rated **TV**



“  
If my man  
wants me  
to walk  
around  
supersexy,  
why not?  
”

Lingerie, **Kiki de Montparnasse**.  
Necklace, **Zoë Chicco**.

**WORDS:** ADAM LINEHAN;  
**PHOTOS:** RENÉ & RADKA;  
**STYLIST:** DEBORAH AFSHANI  
FOR ART DEPARTMENT; **HAIR:**  
SASCHA BREUER FOR WELLA  
PROFESSIONALS; **MAKE-UP:**  
KATE LEE FOR CHANEL;  
**MANICURE:** EMI KUDO AT  
OPUS BEAUTY USING CHANEL



# NATIONAL FINAL

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Laura Brunskill, 2014 MAXIM ASMY

Photo: Wayne Daniels / Makeup: Ali Pavlinovich / Wild Orchid Swimwear

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# Rated DVD

## DROP IT LIKE IT'S HOT

OWN  
THE DROP  
ON BLU-RAY  
& DVD AT

JBHIFI



### THE ACTOR

BELGIAN ACTOR **MATTHIAS SCHOENAERTS** FILLS US IN ABOUT HIS ROLE IN THE THRILLING DRAMA, *THE DROP*, AND DISCUSSES DREAMING ABOUT DOGS AND WORKING WITH THE LATE JAMES GANDOLFINI (IN HIS FINAL FILM PERFORMANCE)

**You've played a lot of intense characters**

**in your career but this might be the moodiest one yet.**

Eric is a complicated guy! I don't know why I keep running into these kinds of characters. I guess I just find them interesting, there's a magnetism to them. But no, Eric is not the kind of man you want to have around for dinner. He's not a cosy, charming fellow.

**Do you see Eric as the villain of *The Drop*?**

I'm always scared of judging characters. Of course, I know what his function is but I don't try to approach him as being a bad guy. He's just a lost soul. Like all these characters are – they're all lost, desperate, hiding things, ashamed. They all need each other somehow. I run into all kinds of people and every now and again you'll meet a weirdo like Eric. There's guys who hang out in your neighbourhood and have a certain way of moving and behaviour that comes with it. We want to stay away from any kind of stereotype or ridiculousness.

**What was it like working with *Mad Max* himself, Tom Hardy?**

Tom's a lot of fun. He's really generous. I think the dynamic between our characters is far from the obvious thing people might imagine when they think of us together. The energy between them is dangerous and electric, but not in the testosterone sense. These guys are not fighters – they're survivors. They're not kids anymore.

**And what about acting alongside James Gandolfini in his final performance?**

I only had two scenes with James. He's

iconic, of course, but so much more than Tony Soprano. He did a couple of indie films in which I really loved him. A badass actor, always powerful and honest and sincere. And humble and ready to work in person. It was an honour to have worked with him.

**“THEY ARE TWO VERY EMOTIONAL PEOPLE. AND SOMETIMES EMOTIONAL PEOPLE DO BAD THINGS.”**

**You share the most screen time with Noomi Rapace (Nadia). How would you describe the relationship between Eric and her character?**

These two people have a history, which Noomi and I made up in detail. We're not explaining the whole of it, but we realised they must have been engaged

in an extremely passionate, destructive relationship, absolutely depending on each other. And then at a certain point she found the strength to detach from him. Once one party in a relationship has the strength to leave the other person, that's kind of hard. They are two very emotional people. And sometimes emotional people do bad things.

**All three lead characters have a relationship with the puppy in this film. Have you ever owned a dog?**

When I was a kid I had a Chow Chow, the Chinese dogs with the blue tongue, and his name was Brando. He passed a long time ago but I still dream about him. Every once in a while he pops up in my mind when I'm sleeping. Somehow on a deep level I must have been really attached to him because in my dreams he feels so real that by the time I wake up I'm really sad he's not there.



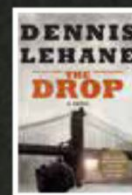
WORDS: BRAD BALFOUR/FAMOUS (LEHANE)





## THE WRITER

THE DROP IS BASED ON A SHORT STORY PENNED BY NOVELIST-TURNED-SCREENWRITER, **DENNIS LEHANE**. WE HAVE A CHAT TO HIM ABOUT WRITING FOR JAMES GANDOLFINI, TAKING ON HOLLYWOOD, AND... PIT BULLS



**You adapted *The Drop* from your short story titled *Animal Rescue*.**

It was the first chapter of a failed novel which I began in 2001. I remember the thing that inspired it. I was taking a walk around the neighbourhood I was living in, a solidly working-class neighbourhood of firemen and cops and students. It was just after Christmas and I was stunned by the conspicuous refuse of consumption – toys thrown away two days after they were given to someone. It made me feel kind of lonely and sad. And that's really where it all started, with the walk that Bob takes at the beginning of the short story. He sees all this garbage – this guy who would kill just to feel anything, with anyone, ever again. And then, just when he's feeling at his most hopeless, he hears a noise. This dog, his salvation.

**Where did the central character, Bob, a quiet and mysterious loner, come from?**

I've long been fascinated by the concept of loneliness. It kills more people than heart attacks and cancer combined. So I wanted to tell a story about people who feel like life has passed them by but keep soldiering on.

**How much of this is autobiographical?**

The dog stuff is autobiographical because I have a great love of dogs. The only other thing is that I grew up on the fringes of that kind of shady world. If you grow up in a lot of bars on the East Coast you soon realise they're not making money from the pinball machines. Money is being slid to bartenders, that kind of thing. I'm a big believer in imagination being more important than knowledge. I don't know anything about the Chechen criminal underworld, but I know that vibe.

**Did you have actors in mind while you wrote it?**

Not while I was writing it but when they cast James Gandolfini as Marv I added some back-up dialogue which I thought maybe only four actors on the planet could handle. He was one

of them. I added at least twenty percent to his dialogue. He turned street speech into something... He could just make a meal out of the dialogue. The first line he gets a laugh. That's one of the lines I added. That was pretty gratifying. If I'm just a normal cup of coffee, Jim was like espresso.

**Did you choose a Pit Bull on purpose?**

I had a friend who was working at an

animal rescue in Boston, who said they put Pit Bulls down in 30 days and I asked why, and she said nobody wants to take them, and after 30 days there's a kill order on all Pit Bulls. So I thought, "That doesn't seem right" and just started with that.

**Your novels have been turned into hit movies before, by directors like Martin Scorsese (*Shutter Island*) and Ben Affleck (*Gone Baby Gone*). How was it being on a set as a screenwriter this time?**

Much more comfortable. A novelist on a film set is worth way less than the caterer. They're real nice for inviting you, but what can you honestly do? The actors may want to talk to me about backstory, but when they run into a jam they're not going to ask the novelist for the solution, they're going to ask the screenwriter.

**Do you feel like you're part of the Hollywood establishment now?**

More part of the East Coast film community. I wouldn't say Hollywood yet. It helps that I've spent many months recently working in New York on *Boardwalk Empire*. I definitely feel part of the group that is hanging around Brooklyn with cameras and boom mics. The thing is, I'm a novelist so I don't want to get way too cocky and it all kind of falls together, right at the end. Once you get good actors, and you have the scripts, you're done.

# WIN!

**THE DROP** is a thrilling and emotional drama, also starring Tom Hardy and Noomi Rapace, about a lonely bartender who finds a puppy in a garbage can and soon crosses paths with a gang of hardened Chechen criminals. To celebrate its release on DVD this month, we're giving away the following prize...

For all terms and conditions go to [www.maxim.com.au](http://www.maxim.com.au)



**TEN MAXIM READERS WILL EACH SCORE:**

- A blu-ray copy of *The Drop*.
- A Fireball Bar Kit including a 700ml bottle of Fireball, a Fireball Dartboard, a bar blade, a cocktail shaker, and a bar mat.

**TO ENTER AND FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN TELL US IN 25 WORDS OR LESS WHAT YOU WOULD DO IF YOU FOUND A PUPPY IN A GARBAGE CAN? EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES TO [MAXIM@MAXIM.COM.AU](mailto:MAXIM@MAXIM.COM.AU)**



# Rated DVD



## GALLIPOLI TRUTHS

To mark the 100-Year Anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli this month, Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment have released a digitally re-mastered version of *Gallipoli*, the legendary 1981 Aussie flick (starring Mark Lee and Mel Gibson) directed by Peter Weir. We take a look back at the film that has since influenced many a miniseries and TV movie...



Gallipoli is the story of two young Australian sprinters, Archy Hamilton (played by Mark Lee) and Frank Dunne (Mel Gibson), who become mates, enlist in the army and are sent to Turkey to fight the legendary battle.

Director Peter Weir was inspired to make the film after visiting the World War I battle site and originally planned to encompass the entire Gallipoli campaign from all sides but instead focussed on one group of characters to humanise the whole tragedy. At the time he felt that his young star, Mel Gibson, was "full of beans and really with no grand career ambitions".

Mel once said, "Gallipoli was the birth of a nation. It was the shattering of a dream for Australia. They had banded together to fight the Hun and died by the thousands in a dirty little trench war."

It took three years for the filmmakers to secure funding for *Gallipoli*. One of the producers was media mogul Rupert Murdoch. His father, Keith, had been a journalist in World War I and visited Gallipoli briefly in September 1915. With a cost of \$2.8million it was, at the time (1981), the most expensive Australian film ever produced.

The movie has been criticised for ignoring the British contribution at Gallipoli. The fatal charge at The Nek,



which took place on August 7, 1915, was actually authorised by an Australian officer, not a British one, as depicted in the film. Peter Weir now regrets this as he acknowledges the British made just as valiant a contribution to the campaign as the Australians.

Writer David Williamson adapted his screenplay from Bill Gammage's book *The Broken Years*, which is a collection of diary entries and letters



from around 1,000 soldiers who fought at Gallipoli.

Producers called for 400 skilled male horse riders for the movie yet only 200 turned up. The remaining 200 seen in the final cut are women, dressed to look like men.

The most striking feature of the soundtrack is the music used for the running scenes. These are excerpts from *Oxygène* by

French electronic music pioneer Jean Michel Jarre.

*Gallipoli* grossed \$11,740,000 at the box office in Australia and won eight AFI Awards including Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor (Mel Gibson).



THE DIGITALLY RE-MASTERED GALLIPOLI IS OUT NOW ON DVD AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME, DIGITAL HD AND BLU-RAY

### SPECIAL EDITION

The commemorative DVD release contains interviews with director Peter Weir and lead actors, Mel Gibson and Mark Lee, plus a swag of special features including excerpts from Digger Diaries, historical maps, educational packs, History Channel information pieces, and more. A special Collector's Edition will also be released and include a Gallipoli Journal and Two-Up Set, complete with wooden kipp and two coins. Head 'em up!



# CHECK THESE OUT —

## NORTHMEN: A VIKING SAGA



OUT NOW ON  
DVD, BLU-RAY  
AND DIGITAL HD

In this swords-and-sandals flick a band of stranded Vikings find themselves in enemy territory after their longboat is shipwrecked to pieces by a fierce storm. To survive they must find refuge to the Viking settlement, Danelagh, and with the help of a scene-stealing Christian Monk (played by Aussie Ryan Kwanten) the hunters become the hunted as they mercilessly destroy their pursuers one by one. The fine cinematography, epic-like action sequences, and overall intensity, may remind you a little of *The Lord of The Rings* as it builds to a climatic final and deadly battle. It's one hell of a ride worth checking out.



## REVENGE OF THE GREEN DRAGONS

OUT NOW  
ON DVD,  
BLU-RAY AND  
DIGITAL HD

Set in Queens, New York, during the Chinese immigration wave of the '80s, this Martin Scorsese-EP'd thriller follows two schoolmates, Sonny and Steven, as they join Chinatown gang The Green Dragons, rise up the ranks, and get involved in a world of drugs, extortion, human trafficking and the mandatory shootings and blowbacks with city cops. But after an ill-fated romance pits Sonny against his own brother, shit gets real, and he seeks revenge on the very gang who made him. It's Hong Kong action film meets New York City crime drama – so yes, expect torture, mutilations, sadism, and other forms of graphic violence, with a handful of slow-motion and stop-action killing sequences.

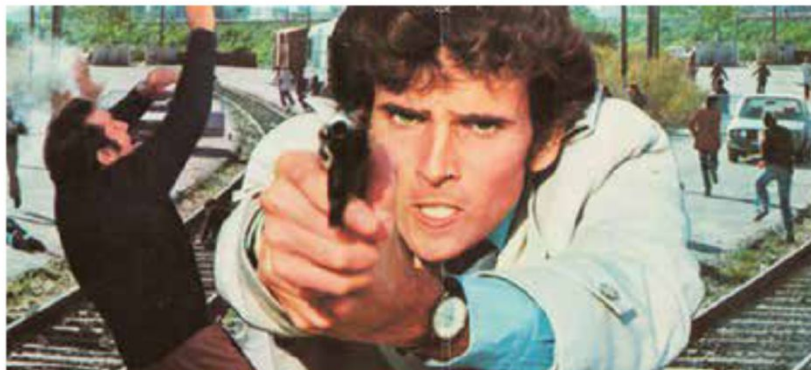


## EUROCRIME! THE ITALIAN COP AND GANGSTER FILMS WHICH RULED THE '70s

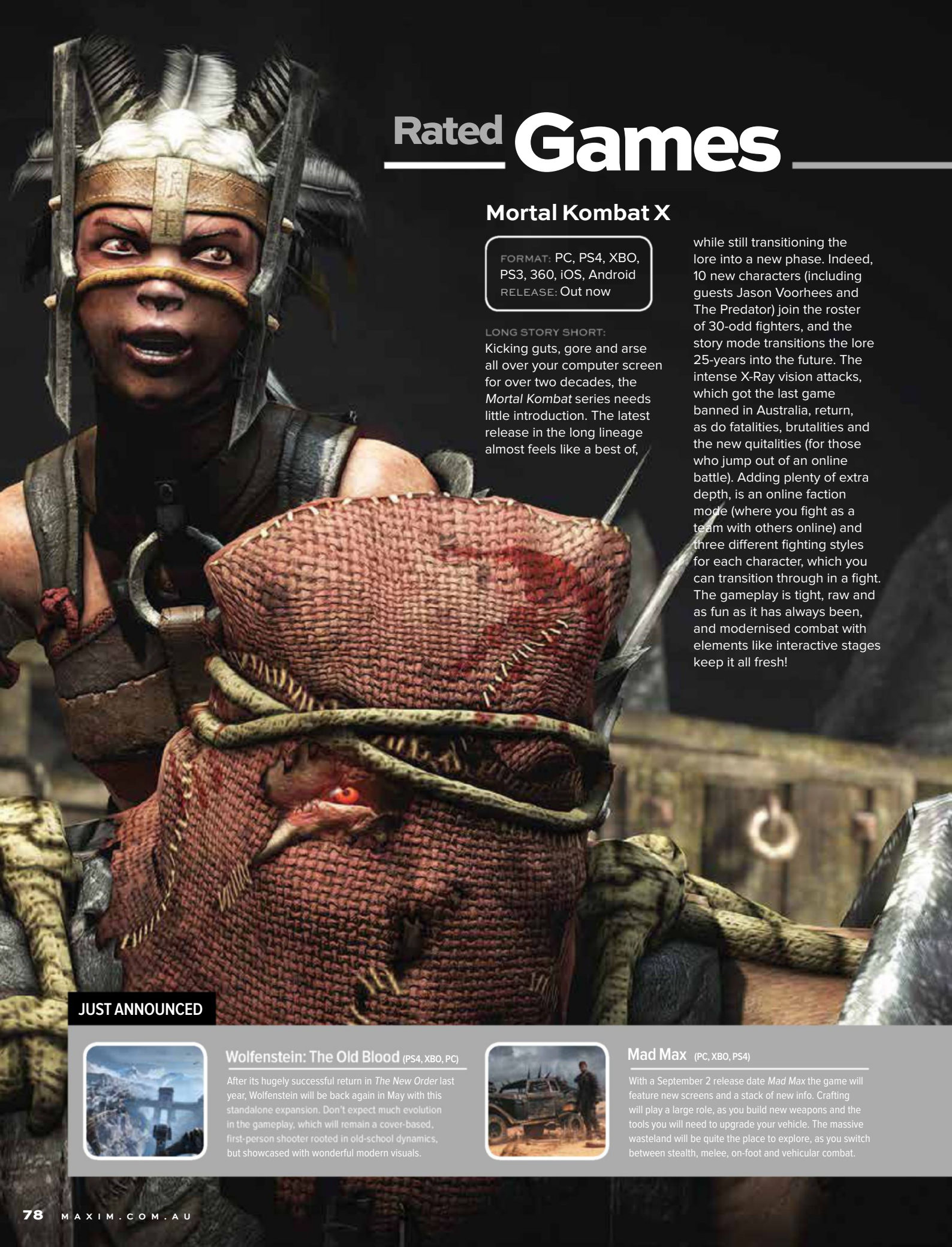


OUT NOW  
ON DVD

Back in the '70s Italy's cinemas were filled with rogue cops and vigilante ex-mobsters, and this doco takes a detailed look at this wild and overlooked film genre – the Italian crime drama. Known as the "poliziotteschi" movement, it saw Italian screens bombarded with native-made/cheaply-produced, fast-paced imitations of gritty US dramas like *Dirty Harry* and *Death Wish*. Basically, the violence was more theatrical, the heroes more macho, and the women a lot sexier. Despite being a tad lengthy, *Eurocrime!* is a brilliant insight into this world with cool, first-hand accounts from the original actors, directors and behind-the-scenes wise guys who worked on these flicks. Mamma mia!







# Rated Games

## Mortal Kombat X

FORMAT: PC, PS4, XBO, PS3, 360, iOS, Android  
RELEASE: Out now

### LONG STORY SHORT:

Kicking guts, gore and arse all over your computer screen for over two decades, the *Mortal Kombat* series needs little introduction. The latest release in the long lineage almost feels like a best of,

while still transitioning the lore into a new phase. Indeed, 10 new characters (including guests Jason Voorhees and The Predator) join the roster of 30-odd fighters, and the story mode transitions the lore 25-years into the future. The intense X-Ray vision attacks, which got the last game banned in Australia, return, as do fatalities, brutalities and the new qitalities (for those who jump out of an online battle). Adding plenty of extra depth, is an online faction mode (where you fight as a team with others online) and three different fighting styles for each character, which you can transition through in a fight. The gameplay is tight, raw and as fun as it has always been, and modernised combat with elements like interactive stages keep it all fresh!

### JUST ANNOUNCED



#### Wolfenstein: The Old Blood (PS4, XBO, PC)

After its hugely successful return in *The New Order* last year, Wolfenstein will be back again in May with this standalone expansion. Don't expect much evolution in the gameplay, which will remain a cover-based, first-person shooter rooted in old-school dynamics, but showcased with wonderful modern visuals.



#### Mad Max (PC, XBO, PS4)

With a September 2 release date *Mad Max* the game will feature new screens and a stack of new info. Crafting will play a large role, as you build new weapons and the tools you will need to upgrade your vehicle. The massive wasteland will be quite the place to explore, as you switch between stealth, melee, on-foot and vehicular combat.





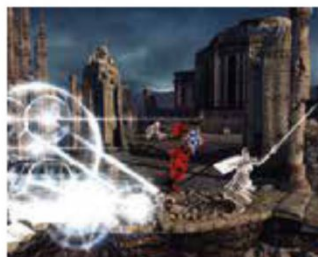
## Dark Souls 2: Scholar of the First Sin

FORMAT: PS4, XBO, PC  
RELEASE: Out Now

### LONG STORY SHORT:

*Dark Souls 2* is a bit of a love/hate experience, but if you can stomach its slow-measured combat, brutal difficulty and intense level design your love will run very, very deep. Already a huge hit on old-generation consoles, the game is now available on next-gen

formats in its ultimate form. It's not the most glorious HD remake out there in terms of visuals, but make no mistake it remains an incredibly rich and detailed world, filled with iconic enemies and jaw-dropping vistas. A third-person, melee based action-RPG, the game excels at bringing strategy to an experience which has commonly opted for button-bashing combos. Turn off your brain for a second and



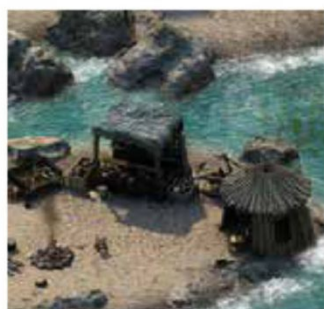
you'll get skewered! Next-gen gamers score an enhanced version of the base game with new content, characters, beats and gameplay refinements, but also the three sizeable DLC expansions. A heck of a lot of game!

## Pillars of Eternity

FORMAT: PC  
RELEASE: Out Now

### LONG STORY SHORT:

Old-school RPGs in the style of *Baldur's Gate* or *Icewind Dale* don't come along too often in the modern world of cinematic blockbusters, but *Pillars of Eternity* is the perfect throwback. It opts for an isometric view, with players managing a party of up to six characters exploring a vast fantasy-set world. Combat unfolds in real-time, but you can pause the action at any time to better orchestrate your tactics. This is a deep RPG, with tens of



hours of gameplay, dungeons galore to explore, backstories to every bit of loot you discover and plenty of time spent contemplating which attributes to level-up, what to sell off and meeting a huge variety of foes in the field of battle. If you were a fan of the genre in the late nineties and early two



thousands, then developer Obsidian (who's legacy includes genre heavyweights like *Icewind Dale*, *Neverwinter Nights* and *Planescape: Torment*) will please you greatly with *Pillars of Eternity*.

## WHAT'S EVERYONE TALKING ABOUT?

Valve has revealed it is entering the Virtual Reality race, and its HTC powered Vive headset will be on sale this year, just before Christmas. As a result, it will beat out Sony's Project Morpheus, which is due out Q1 2016.

Nintendo has announced its new console. Codenamed the NX, we're promised it will offer something we've never seen before, but don't expect a public showing until 2016.

Two painful delays to report, with *Batman: Arkham Knight* (PC, XBO, PS4) delayed till June 24, and *Uncharted 4: A Thief's End* (PS4) right back to 2016.

A bunch of the developers who worked on the original *Banjo-Kazooie* titles from the N64 are working on a spiritual sequel currently called *Project Ukulele*. Speaking of oldies but goodies, a new *ClayFighter* is also incoming!

Developer Harmonix has revealed that *Rock Band 4* is making its way to XBO and PS4 this year. Are we ready for a return of the peripheral heavy rhythm game?

Tiger Woods is dead, long live Rory McIlroy. The Irish golfing sensation is the new face of EA's *PGA Tour* series, and will lead the next game in the series, hitting in June.

### ALSO OUT - XENOBLADE CHRONICLES 3D (NEW 3DS)

If you've picked up Nintendo's new, supped-up version of its 3DS handheld, then you should definitely consider *Xenoblade Chronicles 3D*. A perfect merging of the best of old-school JRPG gaming and modern western RPG open-world gameplay, it started life as a Wii game. It's the first port from the Wii console to the handheld, showing off its increased horsepower and control options in style.



### Star Wars: Battlefront (PC, XBO, PS4)

Everything *Star Wars* is hot again, and with a new film due later this year, it's no wonder the reboot of the franchise's legendary multiplayer FPS *Star Wars: Battlefront* series will also appear before Christmas. This is a just released piece of concept art, but we need little evidence to be convinced this game will kick serious arse. It's being made by DICE, the developer behind the amazing *Battlefield* series, after all.





# Rated Tech

## KNOW YOUR ABCS

**A** = ALL ABOUT (WHAT THE HELL IS THIS THING?)

**B** = BITCHIN' BECAUSE (WHY THE HELL DO I WANT IT?)

**C** = CUNNING LINGUIST (HOW DO I GET THIS PAST THE MISSUS?)

### ► APPLE WATCH

**A:** Extend your phone to your wrist, with a mini-me that is water resistant and easy to glance at for quick information. Swiping and using the little apps is surprisingly intuitive given their size, and features like Siri certainly come into their own.

**B:** The 38 different variants of the Apple Watch ensure there's an option for everyone, and for us that starts with the 42mm Sport, which has a lighter screen than its two siblings. The watch does feel bulky at first, but does look great. It doesn't quite have the Fitness tracking features one would expect, however.

**C:** "Hey look, GoogleBox started five minutes ago."

[www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)



### ◀ NIKON D7200

**A:** This 24.2MP DSLR combines Nikon's EXPEED 4 image-processing engine and DX CMOS sensor to give great low light performance and full HD videos. The 51-point autofocus is impressive, and the battery can deliver over 1,100 photos or 80 minutes of footage.

**B:** We love this camera's NFC and Wi-Fi

capabilities, which allows you to easily get images to a smartphone for social sharing. Two SD card-slots also gives the camera plenty of legs on long trips.

**C:** "Just tap the phone right here and watch!"

[Mynikonlife.com.au](http://Mynikonlife.com.au)

### ◀ BENQ TREVOLO

**A:** This unique Bluetooth portable speaker has fold-out, near flat speakers that flap like Dumbo ears from the side of the core body. That core body houses two 2.5 inch subwoofers, and lithium-ion battery and robust buttons to control the device, including an equaliser.

**B:** Despite the potentially flimsy design, the TreVolo actually feels quite sturdy and produced very impressive sound for such a relatively small device.

**C:** "It's like a cute little elephant... that likes trance."

[www.benq.com.au](http://www.benq.com.au)



### ▼ SAMSUNG GALAXY S6

**A:** Appearing in both standard and "Edge" forms, the latter allowing the screen to follow the curve around the edge, Samsung is going all in on this puppy. Its own Exynos processor will drive the 5.1" screen and Android Lollipop OS. Wireless charging and connectivity with the Gear VR also help

differentiate the phone from its competitors.

**B:** The cost is that there is no micro-SD slot, it's no longer waterproof and you can't change the battery. But it's tough as nails despite being very thin, has a 16MP camera and can deliver full HD video at 60fps.

**C:** "I want to start being a part of this galaxy"

[www.samsung.com/au/home](http://www.samsung.com/au/home)







#### ▲ PHILIPS SHAVER S9111/26

**A:** Philips has stepped up its game with its Contour Detect Technology, with the three heads now moving in eight directions to follow your face features. The SmartClean Plus feature also cleans, lubricates, dries and charges your shaver on your behalf. A BeardStyler clips on, offering five lengths as well.

**B:** The V-Track Precision Blades guide each hair to its doom, which keeps things nice and gentle. Also helping keep any unfortunate rashes down is the AquaTec Technology that allows you to use a gel or foam.

**C:** "You don't look this good for free, honey!"

[www.philips.com.au](http://www.philips.com.au)



#### ▲ LED LENSER XEO

**A:** The GoPro bug has been caught by the light makers at Lenser, who've created a headlamp specifically for the extreme dude. This torch has dual lenses that pump out 2,000 lumens of light (more than a car headlight) and will adjust automatically depending on your speed and surrounding light levels.

**B:** This lights the path in front of you like day for your night time adventures, but you can even actually mount a GoPro to the torch itself. Not only does this allow you to have both on your head with ease, but the torch will charge the GoPro while it is filming. Bloody epic if you ask us!

**C:** "Don't wait up!"

[www.ledlenser.com.au](http://www.ledlenser.com.au)

#### ► BROTHER MFC-J4620DW

**A:** Calling this thing a printer seems unfair, given it's also a copier, scanner, photo capture centre and fax. The print speed is excellent and incredibly quiet, and you can connect wirelessly to multiple devices on your network.

**B:** The 9.3cm touchscreen on the front controls everything nicely, with a simple easy to navigate menu. The 150-page holder loads from the front too, which makes it far easier to fit in a busy home office.

**C:** "Look how good the photos from our next holiday will look, babe."

[brother.com.au](http://brother.com.au)



#### ▲ FOXTEL IQ3

**A:** It has been a long wait, but the third generation of Foxtel's set-top box is here. The hard drive is now 1TB, and you can record three shows while watching a fourth. You can connect via the streaming focused 802.11ac Wi-Fi, and the remote is now Bluetooth.

**B:** The menu and interface is snappy and has been modernised. In particular, seeing related content (say shows with the same actor), what's trending and On Demand shows you can restart at any time is much more user-friendly.

**C:** "Well, we spend half our lives on this thing!"

[www.foxtel.com.au](http://www.foxtel.com.au)



# Rated Tech



**Peter Petrides, National Sales Manager for Plantronics Consumer Products in Australia and New Zealand, talks up the all-new generation of headsets**

## TELL US A BIT ABOUT THE PLANTRONICS STORY?

It all began in a garage in 1961 when two airline pilots, set out to invent an alternative to the conventional heavy aviation headsets. The product created in that tiny garage in Santa Cruz, California was more than just the world's first lightweight headset. It was the birth of Plantronics, and the first of a half-century of innovations. By the '90s, our products were busy transforming the business environment as office workers everywhere adopted Plantronics ultralightweight, headsets. Wireless designs for office and mobile phones followed, and by century's end, we were perfecting headsets for multimedia, gaming and Internet telephony. Today, Plantronics has more than 3,000 employees worldwide with offices in more than 30 countries.

## WHAT PRODUCTS DO YOU OFFER?

In the consumer business, we focus on three categories – Bluetooth Wireless communication for mobile phones; Music, our most exciting division with the ability to be wireless with our BackBeat range; and Gaming, where the GameCom and RIG range of headsets have improved gamers enjoyment and performance with our reliable, comfortable and innovative designs.

## DISCUSS YOUR INNOVATIVE DESIGN.

We are blessed with a design team, headed by Darrin Caddes, who spent more than 20 years designing products for some of the world's most prestigious automotive and motorcycle brands, including BMW, Fiat and Indian Motorcycle. He says, "Human anatomy is the canvas on which we create new designs and product concepts. In many ways, we begin the design process by starting at the end; by examining where our final products will rest. And that isn't in the box or on a table, but worn. If it doesn't look good on the human body, it's not worth exploring."

## AND YOUR MOST POPULAR ITEMS?

The most recent would undoubtedly be the Backbeat FIT. We are at the peak of comfort and function in fitness headsets at present where music is an important part of most active persons fitness regime. With the plethora of fitness bands, and app's available the ability to take music with you is extremely important. The FIT helps people merge music with fitness – easier, smarter, and safer. They allow music to stream wirelessly to your ears without the loss of the outside environment. They're also water and sweat proof, designed to stay put whether your running, wind surfing or cliff jumping, and are currently the biggest selling wireless fitness headphones in Australia.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR PLANTRONICS?

Whether it be a console, PC/Mac, smartphone or tablet, we will introduce products easily connecting these devices and their functionality with the consumer. Innovative gaming product announcements are on the way for E3, further iterations of our Backbeat range are due in the coming months, and refreshes of our traditional bluetooth headsets will also be released with some very smart features allowing users to be hands free whilst getting the best from their devices.



### GameCom 788 THE BEST-SELLING WIRED PC GAMING HEADSET

Feel every bit of action around you and hear opponents before they see you. After the game, keep these comfy headphones on to catch up with friends on Skype or relax and enjoy your movies and music in stunning, Dolby 7.1 cinematic surround sound.

### RIG System FOR PS4, PS3, PS VITA

Connect to the audio amplifier and with one touch mix game audio, chat, listen to music, or take phone calls. The noise-canceling boom mic ensures teammates or rivals clearly hear you on PS4 or PS3, while the optional inline mic lets you switch to a PS Vita mobile experience.



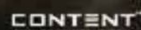


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# Rated Tools

TALKING HARDWARE  
WITH **SCOTT CAM**



## 18V DV18DBL Brushless Impact (Hammer) Driver Drill

Hitachi has changed the game yet again, this time with their awesome Brushless Impact Hammer Drill. Brushless motors are 30% more efficient than conventional models as no energy is wasted through brush friction, thus extending battery run time. They also generate more power, providing higher torque levels and workload capacities. Choose between eight speeds, giving you a much wider

range of applications over your run-of-the mill hammer drills, and the super high capacity 5.0Ah Li-ion batteries with multiple protection circuit provide long run time and protect the battery and tool from overload, over heat, over discharge and over charge. It's like it has a mind of its own.

## 18V WH18DDL Cordless Impact Driver

You know by now how much more power and battery life you get out of brushless tools, but this beauty also packs a stack of features over your ordinary cordless drill. With its IP56 Water and Dust Protection, huge 172Nm of torque & high speed fastening this driver provides max power and performance for the toughest jobs.

## 18V G18DBAL Brushless 125mm Angle Grinder with Paddle Switch

Hitachi has answered the onsite demands and delivered the mother of all 18V Angle Grinders! The G18DBAL Angle Grinder has a Brushless Motor and is powered by a super high capacity 5.0Ah Li-ion battery for extra grunt and more runtime. It's rigged up with Paddle Switch, Anti-Kickback, Soft start, Restart protection and Overload protection bringing higher performance and safety

to the job site. This high quality unit is available either as a set (two batteries, charger in a carry case), "Naked" (tool only) or as a pack with the tried and tested Hammer Drill and Impact Driver.

Grab them separately or as part of the three-Piece Combination Kit with two batteries, cooling charger and bonus site bag.





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Ask for your **favourite** at your local store  
or call **1800 067 686**



# Rated Tools

## WOMAN WITH A TOOL

### THE RYOBI 18V ONE+ HEDGE TRIMMER

The RYOBI 18V ONE+ System has more than 40 tools that work with the same battery platform, giving you the ultimate versatility in tool selection to get your job done.

This Hedge trimmer, fiercely modelled by MAXIM cover girl Joanna Hill, brings precise cuts. Featuring 18-inch, 500mm hardened, dual-action steel blades for reduced vibrations and user fatigue, it makes it easy to maintain your shrubs and hedges. Just the way Jo likes it!

PHOTOS: WAYNE DANIELS;  
HAIR & MAKE-UP: HELEN  
SHIELDS BENNETTS; STYLING:  
ELLE PERRING & CHERYL TAN





# MAXIM

AUSTRALIA

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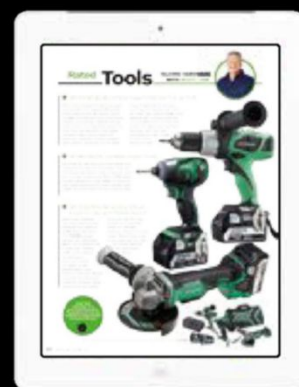
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Our app isn't just a digital version of the mag, but features interactive content and links. Take a peek behind-the-scenes of our exclusive photo shoots and buy products featured inside at the push of a button or swipe of your screen.

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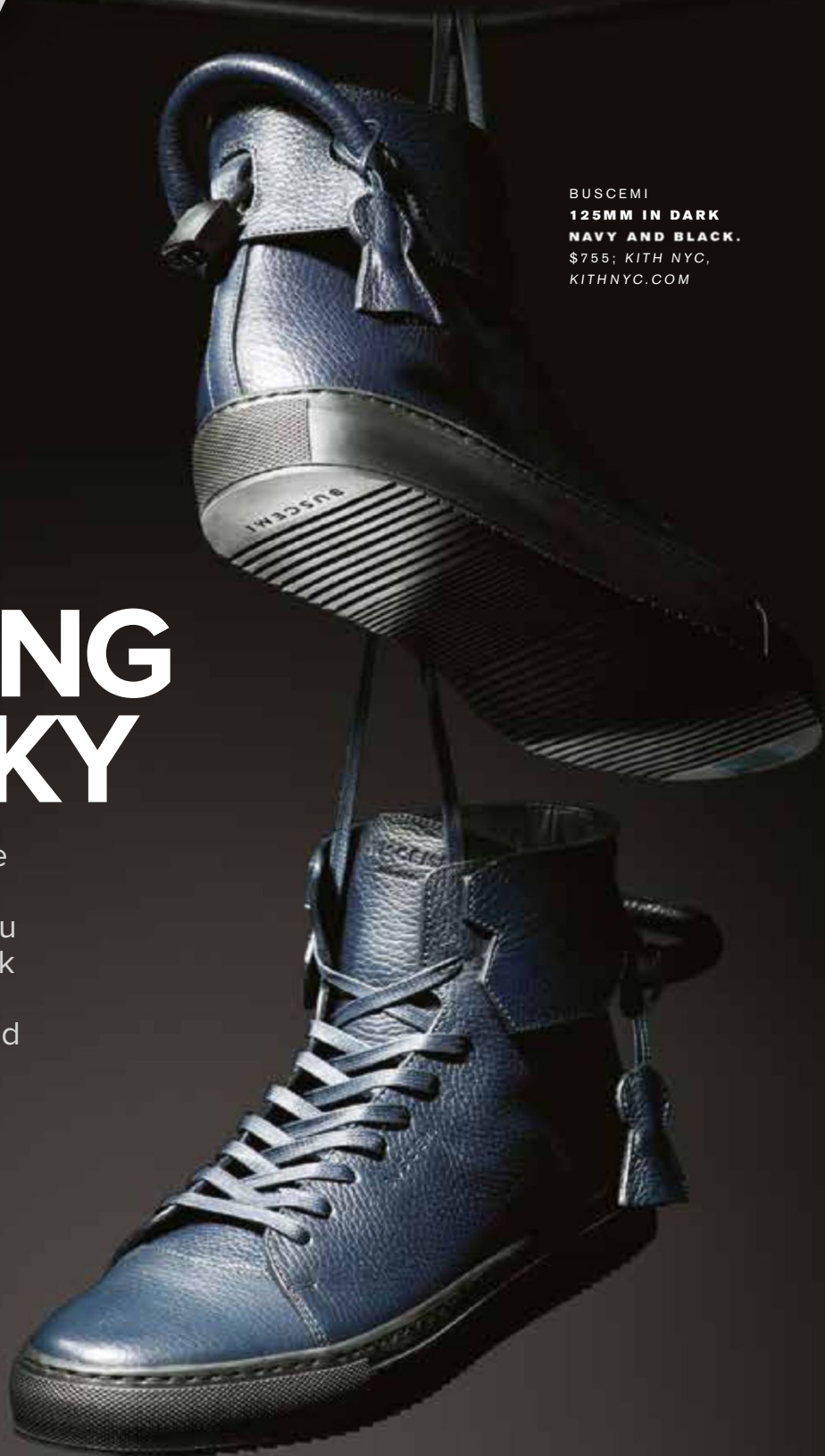


# Style

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## GETTING SNEAKY

The office dress code has loosened up, but that doesn't mean you should stroll into work with scuffed Chucks on your feet. High-end high-tops fall into that sweet spot of being suit-worthy and perfect with a pair of jeans







**1.** Tom Ford Russell high-top in black leather. **\$990**; select Tom Ford boutiques

**2.** Santoni Clean Icon sneaker in black leather. **\$450**; [santonishoes.com](http://santonishoes.com)

**3.** Salvatore Ferragamo Black leather and lizard lace-ups. **\$1,200**; Salvatore Ferragamo boutiques nationwide

**4.** Jimmy Choo Belgravia high-top in navy croc-embossed leather. **\$765**; select Jimmy Choo boutiques

**5.** Z Zegna All-Court High sneakers. **\$550**; select Zegna boutiques



# DARK MATTER

Understated and effortlessly cool, all-black accessories amplify any look. Here are the wallets, shoes, and belts to boost yours this season

(This page, from top) Weston leather belt (\$128), Coach; reversible Croft belt (\$85), Will Leather Goods; black Epi belt (\$500), Louis Vuitton; Placque Buckle belt (\$45), Calvin Klein; black leather belt (\$380), Ermenegildo Zegna; leather belt (\$59), Tommy Hilfiger; black leather belt (\$68), Cole Haan; ostrich belt (\$595), A. Testoni; black belt with squared buckle (\$260), Gucci; black leather belt with brushed metal buckle (\$395), Salvatore Ferragamo.





(Clockwise from top left)  
Lollen wallet (**\$275**),  
Bally; compact ID in  
cross grain (**\$175**),  
Coach; Lillis wallet  
(**\$130**), BOSS Hugo  
Boss; black textured  
billfold (**\$45**), Calvin  
Klein; black leather  
billfold (**\$330**),  
Ermenegildo Zegna;  
Mark wallet (**\$395**),  
Jimmy Choo; Calandre  
wallet (**\$470**), Bottega  
Veneta; pebbled-  
leather wallet (**\$340**),  
Salvatore Ferragamo;  
Enveloppe Carte de  
Visite (**\$295**), Louis  
Vuitton; Chamberlain  
slim-fold wallet (**\$128**),  
Cole Haan.



# 7 DEADLY SINS

THERE ARE SOME THINGS WE DO WITHOUT THINKING THAT ARE PRETTY HEALTHY FOR US (LIKE BREATHING, FOR INSTANCE). OTHERS, NOT SO MUCH. HERE ARE SOME GROOMING BLUNDERS YOU PROBABLY DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU'RE MAKING, AND HOW TO CORRECT THEM, WITH LITTLE EFFORT

## 1. OVER CLEANSING

Wait, clean skin is a good thing, right? Yes, but too clean can lead to dodgy skin, as it strips away the oils your skin needs to stay looking and feeling good. If you want a really great clean that makes your skin look awesome, try one of the new sonic cleansing gadgets. They whisk away even weeks-old grime, but at the same time boost blood flow to the skin, which helps your skin cells do their thing properly (which ultimately means a great looking dial!). Get your mitts on **(A)** Clinique Sonic System Purifying Brush, **\$145**, and use it with a decent cleanser – not soap. Try **(B)** Clinique Take the Day Off Cleansing Balm, **\$55**, [www.clinique.com.au](http://www.clinique.com.au).

## 2. USING A DIRTY TOWEL TO WIPE AWAY SWEAT

This is one of the biggest skin sins you could commit. While no one digs sweat in the eye during a workout, using a filthy towel spreads bacteria over the skin, which ultimately equals congestion, blackheads, zits and acne. What to do? Simple – make sure that and a clean towel is the only thing that touches your face when you're working out!

## 3. RUNNING YOUR HANDS THROUGH HAIR

Assuming you've got hair left on your noggin, this is a huge no-no. Understandably, it's something you immediately do when your team is losing or your boss is giving you grief, but here are three reasons you shouldn't: 1. It spreads oil through your hair and leaves it looking greasy and drab; 2. It can weaken the

hair strand and may cause it to break.

3. It transfers bacteria and dirt from your hands to your hair and scalp, which means you'll need to shampoo more often. If you can't stop yourself, clean up oil slicks and dirt with a quality dry shampoo, like **(C)** Fudge Dry Shampoo, **\$18.95**, 1300 764 437.

## 4. RESTING YOUR CHIN ON YOUR HANDS

For the same reason you shouldn't run your hands through your hair, never, ever rest your face in your hand. Unless you want oily, blemished and dirty skin, that is. Ditto for holding your phone between your chin and shoulder. Not only will you get a crick in your neck, you'll be depositing all kinds of grime on your face. Make sure you clean your phone every morning with a good anti-bacterial wipe, too. Try **(D)** Curash Gentle Anti-Bacterial Wipes, **\$4.99**, [www.curash.com.au](http://www.curash.com.au)

## 5. COMBING/BRUSHING YOUR HAIR WRONG

Who knew there was a correct method? Well, there is. If you're hair is longer, always start at the ends of your hair and work upwards gently and slowly, or you'll risk splitting and breaking your strands. And never brush wet hair even if it's super short – use a special detangling gadget like **(E)** The Man Brush Scalp Massager, **\$3.95**, 1800 251 215.

## 6. TAPPING FINGERNAILS ON DESK

Aside from this being completely annoying for your colleagues, it places stress on your fingernails, weakening them and putting them at risk of splitting and breaking. Grab a stress ball, instead.

## 7. WEARING FRAGRANCE ON YOUR FACE

You've always thought that your face and neck were the places to splash your cologne on, right? Wrong! This exposes your skin to photosensitivity, which in layman's terms means when UV light hits the skin, it can react with the alcohol in your scent and cause a nasty, itchy rash. Keep fragrance application to where the sun don't shine (behind the ears and your wrists). Get your hands on the new **(F)** Reveal by Calvin Klein, **from \$80**, 1800 812 663.





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# TRAVEL Mad Men

TAKE A HERD OF NUTBAGS FROM THE GOLD COAST, ADD AN INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT WITH A STRICT FORMULA OF FISHING, SURFING, AND BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, AND YOU'RE ONTO A WINNING THING. JAMES KERLEY SPENDS A DAY FISHING WITH THE MEN FROM MAD HEUY'S



Before we get started, perhaps you should Google 'Mad Huey's Tiger shark'. No, seriously, do it. You will get a better idea of the loose units we are dealing with here.

They are The Mad Huey's and their mantra is "all about getting up in the morning, looking out the window and saying, 'I'm the maddest Huey in this joint'. No wave, no fish, no boat, no rod, no person, no party can stop us because we run with the deepest pack in the business".

The Mad Huey's was just a throwaway name when entering a fishing competition for a trio of men from Queensland's Gold Coast, who love to fish in, and

out of, the water. What's happened since is nothing short of epic – 170,000 Instagram followers, their own sponsored surfers and fisherman, Mad Huey's merchandise going gangbusters online and building the dream even further with their own warehouse, albeit they still work their day jobs to keep it real. That said, there is rumoured to be interest from a US production company to shoot a series around their Nautical nonsense.

I get the call up to go and head out fishing with two of the looser nuts in the team... Suspect No.1: Joel Scott – Mad Huey's Co-founder/Director and a cameraman for Nine News on the Gold Coast who loves to surf and fish; Suspect No.2: Shaun Harrington – Co-founder and El Capitan. Also, an epic surfer, Tiger shark dodger, and the other third of the Huey's with his twin brother Joel. Here's how the day unfolds...



**GOING  
THE  
GOPRO**

One thing the Mad Huey's boys know is how to smash epic photos and cracking video footage of their fishing, female, and surfing-based conquests. Their weapon of choice is a GoPro. So, while they're still sober, we extract five of their best tips on how to maximise taking these images:



**1PM:** We meet at a boat ramp on the NSW-Qld border and brake-in their brand new vessel, The Animal III. A centre-consoled, nicely-powered and pimped-out fishing machine. Once out on the water, the Cap lays down the rules – which is essentially a loosely-scripted speech about staying hydrated and quenching the slightest of thirsts with regular beer breaks. No matter what.

**1:33PM:** We power through a sandbar crossing and out past D-Bar to a place called 9 Mile Reef. The boys manage to hit a Lemon Shark on the way out but he doesn't seem too worried. Lemon Shark 0: The Animal III: 1.

**2:03PM:** There's rumoured to be some nice Yellowfin Tuna around and after a while we're trawling up a storm feeling the adrenalin like illegal Japanese tuna fisherman. Except we aren't breaking the law and we aren't Japanese. After no time at all – BANG! One of the

rods goes off and a nice little Mackeral Tuna is dominated back to the boat. The white and red lure is clearly all they're after and we keep hitting more and more of them.

**2:04PM:** We crack another beer. And maybe another.

**2:06PM:** The Huey's manage to convince some poor local brewing business to start making their own beer – one part marketing, two-parts drinking problem – but it definitely sorts out any hydration problems.

**2:58PM:** We catch one last Mackey. Despite the intel on the few Yellowfin Tuna kicking around we only find their poor cousin, so after a while call it a day and trawl back to the coast line. Sea Turtles, Sail Fish and jumping Stingrays are all spotted and run over on the way back.

**4:43PM:** We stop for a look at local surf break Snapper Rocks

(home of the Quicksilver Pro Surf comp) mainly to sample more beer but also to watch local wildlife and cracking introduced species like a blonde beauty from Brazil.

**5:45PM:** Unlike the NSW surf clubs whose catering and entertainment extends only to a 68-year-old in Speedos winking at you in the change rooms, Queensland have got theirs pimped out with a decent RSL-style feed. We go to the one at Rainbow Beach and sneak in one more beer, and a surf-n-turf, before calling it a day.



1. MAXIM's James Kerley on yet another tough assignment; 2,3,4, & 5. The Mad Huey's men with their various perfect catches that don't involve women; 6. Beer O'clock; 7. Drinks can be found everywhere here; 8. Co-founder Joel Scott on the job.



1. Always have a GoPro on a pole for the killer underwater shot.

2. The pro standard for surfing is the #grillmount (holding camera in mouth) and is perfect for riding the barrel and getting the ultimate brag shots for your social media.

3. Lick the camera housing when it's wet to minimise droplets showing up in image.

4. A Chesty or Head Mount is perfect to capture all of the action so both of your hands can stay busy landing the big one.

5. Have a friend ready with time-lapse mode running, so you don't miss the bragger shot holding your big catch on the boat.



# Sex

WORDS: ADAM LINEHAN

## SCENES FROM A SEX PARTY

Upscale, invitation-only orgies are sweeping America and Europe's top cities. They're way hotter, more exclusive, and less freaky than the old sex clubs of yore. But what really makes these naked bacchanals tick?



I'm in a warehouse loft in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a few nights before Halloween, sitting uncomfortably between my friend Erica to my right and a naked couple struggling to have sex on the eight inches of available ottoman to my left. Erica and I are doing a rather heroic job of shifting our gaze to just about anywhere in the room but at our feet, where a pretty brunette in what's left of a Dorothy costume (ruby slippers) services a grinning, half-naked cowboy in a Stetson and not much else. Beyond them, a few dozen beds lined up like some kind of Hieronymus Bosch version of a Sleepy's showroom play host to sexual situations of varying size and gender combinations: girl-boy; girl-girl-boy; boy-girl-boy; girl-girl; girl-girl-girl; and, on the large, sweat-drenched mattresses at the centre of the room, girl-boy-girl-girl-girl-girl-boy-boy-girl-boy (I think). A low-grade funk moves through the place like a rising weather system.

"I'm gonna get some air," I say, standing suddenly. Erica stands, too, and when she does the ottoman seesaws, dumping the bare-assed conjoined couple onto the floor. "Oh, oh!" the woman cries, her big, Kardashian-like mane spilling over her face. A few people laugh. The man looks around, red-faced, his white buttocks illuminated in the loft's weird blue light. Then, after maybe 10 seconds of hesitation, the two reclaim the divan and carry on with the same reckless fervor as before.

For many, "sex clubs" conjures up images of

leathery swinger types performing passages from the *Kama Sutra* in clouds of patchouli smoke. But plenty has changed since your Uncle Howie was doing the jellyfish at Plato's Retreat. The modern reality: A new crop of invitation-only sex parties, located in big cities across the US and Europe, is expanding exponentially by replacing the old swingers model with something more upscale, more exclusive, more attractive, less emotionally scarring, and specifically targeted to the instant-gratification ethos of a generation weaned on Tinder and text message hookups. But what really makes these naked shindigs tick? My goal: infiltrate, assess, and maybe even participate, all in the fine name of glossy magazine journalism.

Chemistry, a New York-based "producer of erotic parties," and the host of the pre-Halloween bash, is one of a handful of members-only partyers in the city marketing themselves as playgrounds for the young, beautiful, and "sexually enlightened." "I don't like the term swinger because it harks back to the '70s and the misogynistic practice of wife swapping," says "KennyBlunt," a mysterious dude in his early 40s who says he started Chemistry with his then girlfriend in 2006 after the two became disenchanted with the local swingers scene, finding it awkward, poorly organised, and disconcertingly male-centric. "A lot of our members are just getting out of college – mainly couples and single women. As organisers, our job, first and foremost, is to create an environment where women feel very comfortable."

The first step: Curate the hottest – and least creepy – crowd you could ever hope to find yourself in a room with naked. After e-mailing Chemistry a request for an application, my next-door-neighbour "dates" Erica and Katie and I are sent digital questionnaires, along with requests for "G-rated" photos (Erica and Katie thankfully push that a bit). The questions range from straightforward "What decade were you born in?" to the probing "What's your favourite nonsexual hobby?" to cosmic "What's your philosophy on sex?"

After two days of waiting, I begin to worry about what a rejected application will do to my ego. But the following day, we receive a "for-your-eyes-only" e-mail revealing the time and location of the party. The price for three of us is \$170: \$150 for Erica and me as a couple (which we're not; single guys are a no-go) and \$20 for Katie to tag along. Later, KennyBlunt explains the vetting process to me. "We're looking for creative, thoughtful people... But if we have an applicant whose answers sort of suck but is drop-dead gorgeous, it's like, OK, this will be good for the party."

It's 10:30pm when we arrive at the nondescript door of a warehouse in a newly developed portion of Brooklyn's hipster mecca. With trick-or-treating days away, the party is christened Freaky Friday, and guests have been encouraged to dress accordingly. Out of sheer laziness, we show up in normal going-out attire. After a security guard checks our IDs, we step into a near-pitch-black room where we sign waivers and are ushered past a black curtain into the party. "Enjoy!" says a buxom, blond werewolf, handing us gift bags containing condoms and mints.

We find ourselves in a cavernous, concert-like space, with about 200 people crowded in front of a stage watching a slender woman in a glossy, skintight dress doing some kind of X-rated stand-up. The ratio of girls to guys is impressive – somewhere in the ballpark of 60:40 – and everyone's pretty much straight out of the young Brooklyn nightlife playbook. We take a mini tour. Here's what we see: a well-stocked bar, a nicely appointed snack table, a pair of metal staircases leading to an open loft filled with rows and rows of beds. Here's what we don't see: Fucking. Groping. Not so much as a surreptitious hand job or flashed boob.

We locate KennyBlunt ("KB to my friends") during the next performance: a girl not much bigger than a Keebler elf twirling fire fans while a pair of giant torches shoot flames from her chest. "Man, if she burns this place down, we're screwed," he says. KB is a solidly built Midwesterner; with his top hat and skull-painted face, he resembles a stocky Alice Cooper. "The party needs time to build," he tells us. "It's like a pot heating up – everyone talks and drinks and gets to know each other. But you'll see, the moment the show ends,



everyone'll remember why they came here."

Sure enough, during the final act — a by-the-numbers zombie bit starring a blood-spattered girl in a nightie wielding a severed arm — the crowd, as if on silent cue, begins trickling away in twos and threes, vanishing in a steady stream up the stairs.

Pumps are kicked off. Zippers are unzipped. Sexy Ebola Nurse costumes are discarded in yellow and white heaps. Thongs, boxers, and lacy bras are dropped midstream, leading to beds like bread-crumbs trails. In a moment, the vibe has switched from Williamsburg-hipster-bar to director's-cut-of-Caligula. The orgy is under way.

And a couple of hours later, it's still under way. I've been drinking all night, working up the nerve to join in on the fun. But how, exactly? Erica and Katie have bailed, complaining about the lack of attractive single men. I decide to stick around, and now I'm seated on that same ottoman, chatting up a couple who've graciously invited me to join

them for the remainder of the party.

"We were hooking up in the other room, and it was just way too crowded," says Laura, a dark-haired beauty dressed like a Depression-era gangster, complete with bowler cap, blue pinstripe minidress, and black thigh-high stockings. "I kept getting elbowed in the face." She's in her late 20s and owns an Internet company. Her boyfriend, David, also in his late 20s, is an executive at a big New York financial firm. Six months ago, Laura first heard about the sex parties and suggested they try them out. "I'm the luckiest guy in the world because she doesn't want to sleep with other guys — just girls," David tells me. "Most people we've met doing this are highly educated, successful, and personable. They're people with regular lives, just like us."

David and Laura are, hands down, the best-looking couple here. A few minutes into our conversation, two girls who've been eyeing Laura from across the room join us. One, a curvy blonde in her mid-20s, wears nothing but red lace underwear and a red velvet cloak draped over her shoulders, and, not surprisingly, introduces herself as Red Riding Hood. The other, a tall Brunette whose name I don't catch, is dressed as a German barmaid, pigtails and all. They want to know if Laura wants a massage. She does. Within seconds, Laura is supine on a table, being ridden by Red Riding Hood, while Barmaid Helga kisses Laura's neck. Not sure what to do, I follow David's lead. He positions himself on one side of the table, and I stand on the other,

FOR MANY, "SEX CLUBS"  
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PERFORMING KAMA SUTRA  
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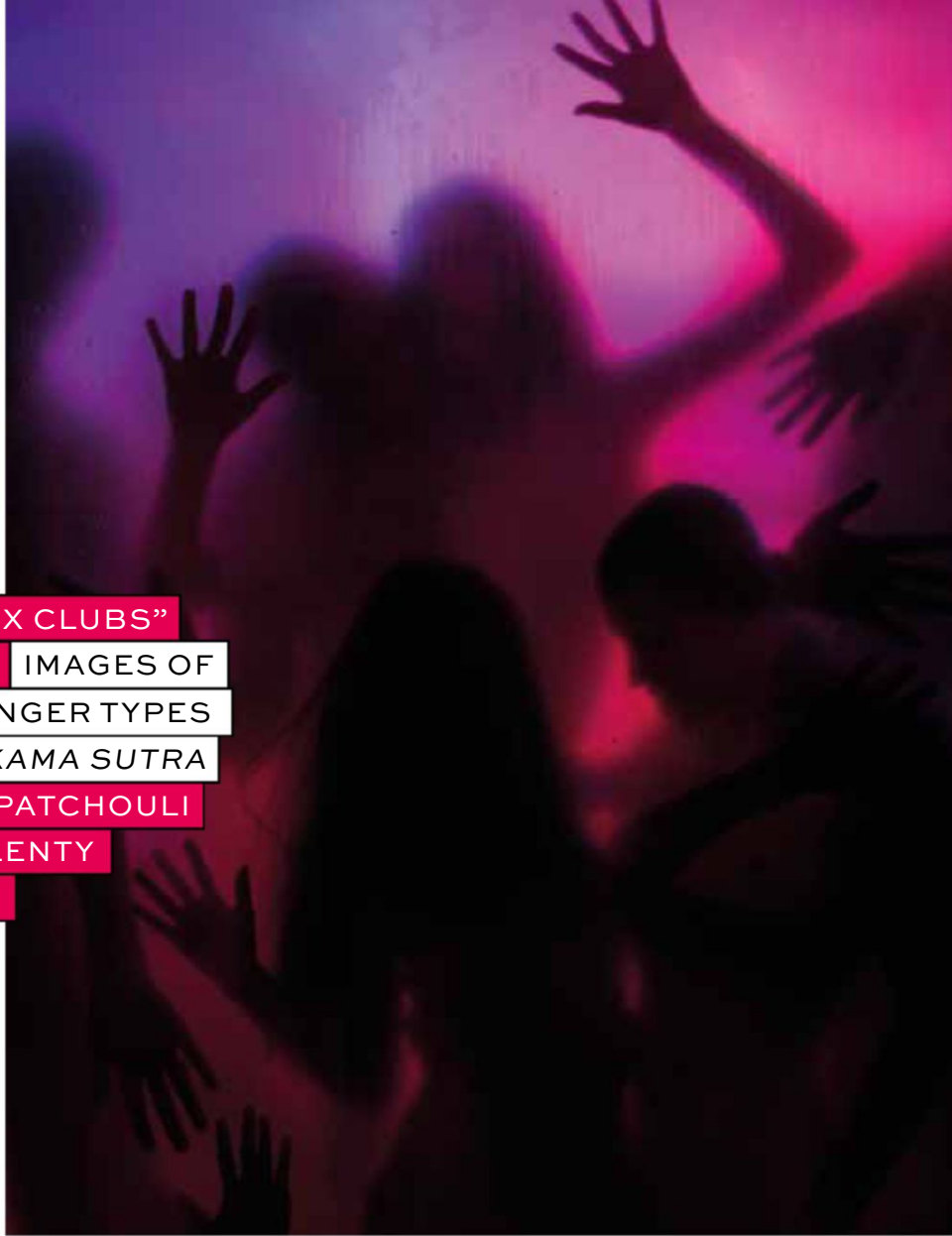
and we begin running our hands along Red Riding Hood's upturned ass and thighs. My heart is racing. This is how it happens, I think. When David pulls off his shirt and throws it on the floor, I do the same. And when he starts massaging Laura's thighs, I do, too.

The next few minutes are a blur — a sweaty tangle of limbs and fingers and tongues and nipples. It winds up like this: Red Riding Hood grabs my head and begins pulling it down toward Laura's nether regions. While moving south, I shoot David a glance. "Is this cool?" I say. "Yeah," he says, grinning. "Of course." Laura is clearly into it, too. I take a breath and dive in, and now I'm 100 percent certain this is going to escalate into a full-blown five-way.

Then the lights start blinking on and off. What the f—k? I look up — everyone, Laura especially, looks startled. I glance at my watch: 2am. The party is supposed to go until 3am. A general sense of confusion settles over the room, and everyone is grumbling and reaching for their clothes. I pull my shirt back on, feeling embarrassed it came off

in the first place. A guy dressed as a Trojan soldier appears at the door. "Hey, sorry about that, guys!" he shouts. "A mistake! Party on — we're going until 3am!" But it's too late. The buzz has been mercilessly killed. "Let's get out of here," Helga says with a sigh, and as a group we descend the stairs.

At the bar, I order a shot, feeling as if I've reached the pinnacle of sexual frustration. David puts a hand on my shoulder. "We're all thinking about going somewhere else," he says. "What do you think?" Yes! I turn back to the bartender, telling him to hurry with the tequila. I down it in a single gulp and turn, expecting to see my new friends waiting for me. They're not. Through the black curtain at the entrance, I see a flash of brilliant red. I rush to the door into the crisp Williamsburg night. I look left: nothing. I look right: Halfway down the block, I see the silhouette of Laura's bowler cap ducking into a cab. I want to yell, "Wait for me!" But I don't. As the cab recedes into the distance, I light a cigarette and begin the long walk home. ■





# 24 HOURS TO LIVE

## Ben Mendelsohn

The legendary Aussie actor, and star of Netflix's new TV drama *Bloodline*, takes us through his last day on Earth

### How do you want to go?

Well, there's the real version and the muck-around version. In the real version I just want to be around people I know and love, get a bit silly, have a bit of a laugh, and a bit of "Jeez, we had some good times" and whatnot. In the other version I would get all the ladies that have been on the covers of *MAXIM* and be in a lovely room with lots of pillows just rolling around.

### Do you have any deathbed confessions?

Good God no! And this is an old Australian thing, too – if you grew up when I grew up, you know from Bea Smith [character in '80s Aussie TV drama *Prisoner*] that you never lag.

### What's your last meal?

Oh, I'd probably just have a roast chick with a few potatoes and gravy on it. Nice.

### Will you be going to Heaven or Hell?

Purgatory I would've

thought. I don't think I've done that good to go to Heaven and I don't think I've been that bad to go to Hell. It might be more the case of, "Go and spend some time in purgatory and hopefully enough people say some prayers for your soul that God goes, 'Alright, yeah, yeah, he's spent a few thousand years in purgatory, we'll let him up.'"

### And what do you say to God when you finally beams you up?

I'm just a soul whose intentions are good. Oh, Lord, please don't let me be misunderstood.

### What's the dumbest thing you ever did on Earth?

In all honesty, it's probably not having a Plan B from being a f—king actor.

### To whom do you owe an apology and what for?

There are probably a few girls from my old high school I owe apologies to. And that's just from me being young and stupid.

### What's your greatest achievement during your time on Earth?

Longevity. Sticking around and being able to keep on doing what I'm doing.

### What's the greatest Ben Mendelsohn scene that never made it on screen?

Ah... um... [sigh] f—ck. [Long pause] Look, unfortunately they're too X-rated even for *MAXIM*.

### Fine, take it to the grave. What are your mates saying over your casket?

They're having a chuckle. People who are close to me, and know me well, have a chuckle. I've been entertaining in my time. I have given people plenty to giggle about.

### What's written on your tombstone?

"Please, Lord, don't let him be misunderstood. He's just a soul whose intentions were good."

### Got any last words?

I'll miss youse.

"I WOULD GET ALL THE LADIES THAT HAVE BEEN ON THE COVERS OF *MAXIM* AND BE IN A LOVELY ROOM WITH LOTS OF PILLOWS JUST ROLLING AROUND."



Catch Ben Mendelsohn in *Bloodline* now, only on Netflix



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